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MADRAS.

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14 DEC 1916
MADRAS

DATIA.

Indian Patriot.

Datia is to-day one of the foremost of Indian States, thanks to the efforts of His Highness, who, ever since he was invested with ruling powers in 1914, has been devoting his uttermost to evolve order out of chaos. To Dewan Bahadur Chaju Ram, C. I. E., the able Dewan also is due largely the credit for the veritable conquest over the Zemindars. The greatest and perhaps the most effective step taken was the introduction of the Revenue settlement in the State. When His Highness ascended the throne he was confronted with a situation that can, perhaps, be described as unique. The administration of the village was entrusted to a Zemindar or in fact a number of Zemindars who as Thekedars or the Ijardas of the village were responsible to the State for payment of its land revenue and other taxes; they were at liberty to enhance or reduce the demand of each holding, for virtually every man by whom the land was held was a mere tenant at will liable every season to be turned out to give place to any other man that might offer more for the holding. The lower classes were not much better than slaves of the Zemindars and had to do all their work in *Begar* with only a nominal remuneration: the Zamindar possessed the power of inflicting any punishment on these poor people short of death or grievous hurt; any attempt on their part to seek redress in State Courts was sure to cause their ruin on account of the influence the Zemindar possessed. The fallow land of each village was the property of theZemindar and even grazing was not available to the other cultivators except on payment of dues demanded by the Zemindar. It came to happen that the best land in each village had passed into the hands of the Zemindars and no better class of cultivators except Chamars and other low classes could thrive in any village; in this way as the Zemindar became the sole master of the village the rights of Zemindari became exceedingly valuable and gradually passed into the hands of rich people, irrespective of the class of population that inhabited the village, with the result that no sympathy existed between the grasping rulers and the degraded peasantry.

The State looking only to the realisation of its revenue long before the crops in the field were ripe, did not care to trouble itself about the difficulties with which the villagers had to contend. On the contrary, it placed its irregular military at the disposal of the Zemindars to help them in realising the revenue, thus adding fuel to the fire which was consuming the poor cultivators. This delegation of authority that had ruined the cultiva-

tors did not in any way help the Durbar since full revenue of a village was never paid and arrears accumulated to about ten lakhs of rupees after large remissions had been made by the State in the past ten years. These arrears are not recoverable from the individual cultivator who was always fleeced to the bone, but are due by the Zamindars who pocketed as much as they could on pretence of non-recovery or of land lying fallow or of emigration of Asamis etc. Another and the most tangible difficulty for the poor cultivator was the system of Begar. Every village contained a number of Zamindars with their relations in proportion; all these were exempt from Begar which fell on the shoulders of the few remaining rack-rented people in the village, the latter being forced to bear the brunt of his pernicious practice in addition to the Begar taken by the Zamindar. The poor ryots had to leave their holding in despair or to groan under the yoke of tyranny and consequent misery. The Parganah Qanungo and the village Patwari—village officials—were nothing but servants of the Zamindar; they helped him directly or indirectly in the extortions and were satisfied by a small share they could get for themselves. The village papers were the property of the Patwari, and even in this day the production of past records is practically an impossibility. As with the Patwari so with the clerks and officials of the State, all important records are with them and their production can only be secured by offer of large bribes in the shape of service or cash. The Chowkidar of the village is, as the Patwari, also the servant of the Zemindar; his remuneration from the State is limited and the number of cultivators being few and the Zamindars not paying him anything for their work, he has to look to thieving for his maintenance and, being a member of the criminal tribe and having relations living in foreign territory, more often indulges in the theft of cattle and other property of the poor cultivator. The Zemindars on account of the authority they possess with these and other disturbers of the peace often join even in dacoities, but more specially they trade in stolen property.

Side by side with all these tyrannical arrangements, the Police of the State was far from reliable; it indulged in extortions and it was a common occurence that on the report of a theft being made to the Police, the Police Officer and his staff would be the forced guest of the man on whom the theft had been committed and he would be fortunate if he escaped with the cost of hospitality only and was not made to pay the Police Officer and his staff for the trouble they had taken in going over to his place for inquiry. The Tahsildar who is really the ruler of the Parganath had little or no voice in the administration of his charge; he contented himself with what the Zemindar gave him and let things slide in the direction they took. He never cared to tour through the Parganah, and whenever he did so, it was more a-

ourse than a blessing to the people since all the charges of his tour in forced hospitality and other connected expenses had to be borne by the village which was fortunate to secure his presence. Forest and Shikar rules added much to the difficulties of the cultivator. Each tree standing in the field was considered to be the property of the State and cultivators had no right to touch it; this led to the growth of forest round each field and bigger forest round each village; wild animals multiplied and devastated the crops while the gathering of birds which found shelter in the trees had their share without trouble; whole villages on this account were depopulated and the cry for relief was general. The cultivating classes had no chance of thriving in the State, a reason which accounted for the reduction of 25000 souls in the population of the State when compared with the census of 1901 and also for the large areas of land lying fallow amounting to one-third of the whole area of the State; accordingly the revenue fell and it amounted under all heads to 6¾ lacs of rupees in the year 1912-13; 1913-14 was a famine year and so the Durbar could only commence its reforms from the beginning of the year 1914-15, the date which marks the return of His Highness to this State. In two years vast progress is reported. If this rate is kept up, Datia has a bright future.

BANGANAPALLE.

Indian Patriot.

Tuesday, the 31st October, was a day of great disaster to this town The largest tank in the State, with a depth of over 60 ft. and some six miles in circuit, was breached, and the town was inundated. People, being taken by surprise, fled, leaving their property behind them. Those on the right bank of the river fled to a hill close by and those on the left sought shelter in the Fort, where the Palace and other buildings were thrown open for them by the kind-hearted Nawab. The flood rose to about 12ft in the worst affected part in the town, but receded with as much rapidity as it had risen. The consequences of the flood were very disastrous. Some 800 houses were literally levelled to the ground, and many people have been rendered homeless. The loss of property may be estimated at about Rs. 10 lakhs. The loss of human life was not heavy, and has not yet been determined. So far as ascertained, they come to about 30. The Nawab and the Dewan have arranged for the feeding of the poor and the distribution of food-stuffs to the helpless. Several public buildings have been allowed for the use of people deprived of houses.

INDIAN PRINCES' CONFERENCE.

Delhi, Nov. 5.—An address was made to His Excellency the Viceroy by His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda in the following terms, at 3 P. M. on the 3rd instant:—

On behalf of the Ruling Princes and Chiefs, assembled here, I have the honour to places before Your Excellency a brief account of the proceedings of this Conference during the past five-days as on the agenda placed before this Conference. We have been compelled to postpone the consideration of item No. 2 relating to the realisation from insolvent debters of assets in State territory, this being a complicated question which required further investigation and expert advice. The consideration of the designs and plans for the Higher Chiefs College, item No. 3 has also been postponed pending further information as to the funds available and the quantity of accommodation required, while as regards, item No. 7, on the subject of the rules for the payment of compensation for railway land, required in British India, we have decided that the question is one which is more suitable for discussion by letter and by later reference, if necessary, to a future conference. As regards item No. 8 we have to acknowledge with gratitude the helpful suggestion made by Sir Thomas Holland as to the means by which the industry of our States may be developed. On the question of the ceremonial to be observed at the installation and investiture durbars, we have arrived after full consideration, at certain conclusions which we desire to place before Your Excellency's Government for favourable consideration. Similarly, the question of the form of administration to be adopted in a State during the minority and the question of the education and administrative and moral training of minor Princes and Chiefs have been carefully considered by committees and resolutions on the subjects have been adopted. We have also recorded our opinion on the control and regulation of motor vehicles and have approved, provisionally, the report of the committee appointed to consider means of financing the Higher Chiefs' College. The Conference has reaffirmed its previous resolution in favour of the institution of the Higher Chiefs College at Delhi.

This has been the first meeting of the Conference in its extended form, composed as it is of Princes and Chiefs who are accustomed rather to issue direct commands than to discuss and vote, and who are, for the most part, strangers to the rules of debate. We think that its results have been fruitful and profitable. Your Excellency has held out the hope that, in the fulness of time, some constitutional assembly may grow out of these Conferences which will take its appropriate place in the Government of our mighty Empire. We cherish that hope ; we trust that this conference will

in future, meet annually, for in it we see the commencement of an institution full of potential good. The ideal we have before us is a Council of Princes with specified functions and well designed workers, and that it may be realised speedily, so that it may perhaps be looked on, in future as one of the landmarks of Your Excellency's term of office. Our every endeavour must be to secure that the future sessions of the Conference may be worked on proper business-like lines. This, our first experience, has revealed to us the fact that we must eliminate certain defects of procedure which have been obvious, which tend to dissipate our energies and to sacrifice valuable time. If, for example, the select committees could be appointed some time before the commencement of the regular session, we should be in a position to give to the resolutions the thought they deserve. Some of the overlapping and conflicting amendments which we had to deal with could find no place in a well-regulated debate. A record of the proceedings should be prepared and circulated every evening, showing the stage each question has reached and a daily agenda preparing us for the work of the day well in advance should be in our hands every morning.

Such a Conference as ours depends for its success on several factors. Not the least of these is the interest shown by the members in every detail of its proceedings. This has been a particularly pleasing feature of our work of the past few days and has been evidenced by the animated nature of the debate on several items. We desire to take this opportunity of leaving on ecord our sense of gratitude to the Political Secretary Mr. Wood, for his exemplary tact and patience in the conduct of the affairs of the Conference. We trust that the recommendation which we place before the Government of India will be accepted. We would again express to Your Excellency our gratitude for inviting us to the Conference, and so affording us an opportunity of recording our views on important matters affecting the welfare of our states. Further, we desire with sincere emphasis that Your Excellency will convey to His most gracious Majesty the King-Emperor the warm assurance of our unswerving loyalty to his august person and to the throne.

His Excellency the Viceroy replied as follows :—I am glad to receive such a satisfactory account of the work you have been able to accomplish during these past few crowded days and I should like to offer you my felicitations on the work you have accomplished and the spirit in which you have approached it. I need hardly assure you that the Government of India will consider most sympathetically the advice which Your Highnesses have placed before them in the resolutions which you have passed. I am gratified to think that you regard the meeting of this Conference as having been of value and are desirous that I should invite you to assemble again

next year. I think I can without risk say that I share your opinion as to the value of this Conference and hope to be able next year to invite Your Highnesses once again to help me with your advice, but I would beg you to give time for the development and growth, and the motto I would ask you to place before yourselves is *festine lenie* "make haste slowly." Naturally I should like to see the Conference take a concrete shape during my tenure of office but the tenure of a Viceroy's office is merely an arbitrary time limit and the course of events in the history are not determined by the limits of man's making. Be sure that in this matter of the resolution of your Conference as in others, the inevitable psychological moment will arrive but true statesmanship awaits that moment and is careful not to be ahead of it. For myself, it has been a source of intense gratification that I have been able to come into close personal touch with Your Highnesses, that you are no longer merely so many names to me, but living personalities, in whose actions and welfare I can take a lively personal interest. The personal factor in affairs is one which none of us ever can afford to disregard. I have now the honour of formally declaring the Conference closed.

Before the close of the proceedings of the Conference His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Hon'ble Mr. J. B. Wood. The proposal was seconded by His Highness the Jam Sahib of Navanagar and carries unanimously.

The proceedings then terminated.

DEWAS SENIOR.

Patrika.

We find that it is not merely village Panchayets that are to be formed, but His Highness's Government has also sanctioned the establishment of Tehsil and Town Panchayets, so that the whole is likely to form a system of representative Government on the same lines as in the West, serving as the basis of the best form of constitutional administration. This is certainly a healthy sign and we hope the Durbar will find ways and means for the providing of facilities for education. This is, we admit, not quite easy in a small State like Dewas with a limitted income; but there are, we believe, many functions and festivals in Indian States which cost a large sum that might be curtailed for this all-important purpose. On the whole any one who reads the report cannot but compliment Mr. Samarth on his achievement and congratulate the people of Dewas.

KAPURTHALA.

Indian Patriot.

Kapurthala is one of the most advanced of the Punjab States, and under His Highness the present Ruler, who recently celebrated the twenty-fifth year of his reign, it has well taken its rank among the well-known Native States of India. The political officer said at the Jubilee, which the people of Kapurthala celebrated with intense enthusiasm a few months ago: "After twenty years of His Highness' rule it may be said without exaggeration that the administration of the State can challenge comparison with that of any other Indian State. This is very high praise, and there could be no greater tribute to the wisdom and statesmanship with which His Highness has guided the affairs." In a speech full of deep interest in his subjects and the desire to see Kapurthala as advanced as European countries, through most of which His Highness has travelled, His Highness said: "You have been good enough to allude appreciatively to the various reforms that have been introduced in the administrative machinery and to the schemes calculated to promote your well-being that have materialized during my reign. After all, I have done no more than my duty and in all that I have been able to accomplish, the co-operation, public spirit and good-will of you all —my officials and subjects—have been my strong main-stay. You may rest assured that during the remainder of the life and rule that may still be vouchsafed to me by Divine Providence, I shall continue to strive to the best of my power for the good of my people and State." With this spirit in administration, and with a picked galaxy of able officials, led by Khan Bahadur Abdul Ahmed, it is no matter for wonder that a steady march is maintained. The Khan Bahadur in his very ably written report thus writes of the officers engaged in land revenue collections:—"Perfection in human arrangements is an ideal that is well nigh impossible of achievement and it is futile to look for it among officers whose mental and moral calibre does not exceed the bounds of mediocrity. Accordingly, our Thasil officers with all their faults are not a class to be condemned wholesale. Complaints of a really serious nature are very rarely received against them and as a body they appear to be conscientious and industrious officials."

The income of nearly thirty-two lakhs does not permit any considerable scale of expenditure on striking objects of reform. But education has always been a favourite subject. In the course of a speech, His Highness said: "I am glad to note your recognition of the fact that during the past twenty-five years of my reign, the policy of my administration towards education has been invariably marked by liberality and a spirit of advance. It is a matter of supreme satisfaction for me to observe that that policy has borne abundant fruit, as is clearly evidenced by the multiplication of educa-

tional institutions, the rise in numbers of those who attend them, the provision of extended hostel accommodation, the appearance of new buildings fitted with modern sanitary requirements, the expansion of the staff and the betterment of their salaries and prospects." The diffusion of education among the fair sex is quickly becoming a pressing need of the country and its inclusion in the forefront of all education schemes that may see the light of day in future years may be regarded as certain. This State has been foremost in gauging the trend of the times and has implanted at considerable cost in the heart of the capital an institution with three branches which is unostentatiously but steadily contributing to the regeneration of the womanhood of the future. Itinerary hospitals are being established to carry medical relief to the very door of the sick. Local self-government, to be real, requires large money grants from the government. A progressive administration is always in need, and financial conditions are constant sources of anxiety. To maintain and improve the existing standard of financial stability unrelaxing observance of the cardinal virtue of economy is essential. Legitimate expenditure should not be curtailed or that schemes necessary for the betterment of the lot of the subjects or the amelioration of the condition of State property should be starved. This would be false economy. But, as Khan Bahadur Ahmed writes, "no expenditure should be allowed or incurred unless necessity for it has been thoroughly established. To attain this end the co-operation of departmental officers is of paramount importance. If they sift their requirements in time and thoroughly before submitting their proposals for sanction, a good deal of unnecessary expenditure can be avoided. Meticulous care should be observed in applying for advances. The fact that these are loans issued on the responsibility of the officers concerned and must be duly adjusted by them should never be lost sight of. The policy of *laisiez faire* causes a chaos in accounts and impairs efficiency."

Among the striking events of the year in Kapurthala is the effective help rendered to the Empire during the war, and the prompt measures taken to sketch a conspiracy. The great war is levying a heavy toll of life among the armies of all and Kapurthala has proved no exception. Apart from the sporadic casualties which frequently occur, a detachment of Kapurthala troops which was sent out to punish an enemy raiding party lost 15 men and its gallant Subedar, who was posthumously honoured by the State by the bestowal of the rank of Captain. A special pension was also granted to his heir. These and similar other casualties necessitated the despatch of two drafts last year. Concomitant with the question of reinforcements is the knotty problem of recruitment, the solution of which has evoked the best endeavours of the administration and State military authorities. A regular recruiting campaign was undertaken in the cold weather, meetings were held

at convenient centres, at some of which His Highness' third son, Captain Maharaj Kumar Amarjit Singh Sahib, presided, and recruiting officers and parties toured the various parts of the State. Opportunities were seized to explain to zaildars and other headmen of the people the present needs of the State and the Empire at large and the justice of the cause for which we had unsheathed our sword. As a further incentive, special bonuses were sanctioned for recruits and rewards for those who help in recruiting. Moreover, His Highness has in addition to the grant of field allowances equivalent to the monthly salary of the recipients and the issue of special rations in the field, sanctioned handsome rates of pensions for incapacitated soldiers and the survivors of those who forfeit their lives at the front in the service of their country. These measures have borne excellent fruit. At the close of the year under review it was evident that the critical stage had passed and that the recruits were no longer a scarcity.

CHAMBA.

Panjabi.

Lahore, Nov. 6.—After the Durbar at Kangra, on the 25th October His Honour Sir Michael O'Dwyer with Lady and Miss O'Dwyer paid a Visit to H. H. the Rajah of Chamba State. At a dinner at the Residency, the health of the distinguished guests was proposed in felicitous terms by the Raja who expressed his desire to mark his appreciation of the visit by a gift of Rs. 5,000 to be expended for war purposes in any way that His Honour and Lady O'Dwyer might think suitable. Sir Michael O'Dwyer, in replying to the toast dwelt upon the services rendered by the State to the paramount power, and in gratefully accepting the special gift of Rs. 5,000, spoke of the liberal contributions made by the State to the various war funds.

SAILANA.

Advocate.

His Highness the Maharaja of Sailana visted the Gurukula Academy Brindaban, on Thursday morning. He arrived while the Rishi Utsava was being celebrated. He was warmly received by the staff and the Brahmacharis. He evidenced great interest and made interesting enquiries. He expressed great statisfaction at what he saw.

COOCH BEHAR.

Statesman.

The following is the full text of the final orders passed by His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar in the Cooch Behar Palace theft case.

Mr. J.N. Roy, Barrister-at-Law appeared for the prosecution and Mr. C. R. Das Barrister-at-Law, with others, defended the accused.

The order of His Highness states :—

"His Highness the Maharaja Bhup Bahadur's orders on the petitions of Kumars Gojendra Narayan, senior Bikashendra Narayan, Kamalendra Narayan, Kanakendra Narayan (accused,) Babus Jadab Lal Sen, Jogendra Lal Sen Dwijendra Lal Sen (accused), and Aktaruddin Mahomed (accused) in the palace theft case :—

The accused have thrown themselves unreservedly on my mercy and pray that the case against them may be stopped. Their petitions are not based on any confession of guilt or complicity which they specifically deny but rest upon a plea of financial hardship brought about by the expenses of this case and a fear of complete ruin should the case proceed to its natural conclusion.

So far as the evidence has gone! I cannot accept the assertion of innocence put forward by the three accused. I recognise the difficulty experienced by them in continuing their defence, for which however, the petitioners are alone responsible. The prosecution was at first solely entrusted to the Public Prosecutor and if the accused had been prepared to go on without a Barrister the prosecution would have been left entirely in his hands. It is impossible to to lose sight of the fact that the expensive character of the defence and the time the case has taken arose from the introduction of Barristers.

No consideration would, on any account, have been shown towards them had they not withdrawn, in a complete and unequivocal manner, the slanderous charges and insinuations levelled against my officers and my Court and the conduct of the prosecution in the course of the proceedings. I would not permit them or any other accused persons within my territory to pose as martyrs of an official conspiracy or to deny the possibility of obtaining justice in Cooch Behar without having the case tried to a finish and sifted to the bottom. But since the accused have thrown themselves unreservedly on my mercy, it is my pleasure to exercise the prerogative of mercy to which they voluntarily appeal.

The exercise of my prerogative of mercy is conditional on the

accused carrying out their undertaking to the effect that they with all the members of their families will leave my territory for ever before September 21st 1916.

Reasonable facilities will be granted to the accused for the management and disposal of their property in Cooch Behar. It is for the petitioners to submit concrete proposals in this behalf and for me to decide what facilities shall be deemed reasonable. The financial help prayed for by Kanakendra Narayan on behalf of his father forms no part of the case now under consideration but the prayer will receive the consideration it deserves when a proper petition is submitted in due form.

It is my desire to express my appreciation of the zeal and devotion to duty displayed by my officers, who have deserved the confidence reposed in them as also my sense of the fairness with which the prosecution has conducted the case.

In the exercise of my prerogative of mercy upon which the petitioners have unreservedly thrown themselves, it is my will and pleasure that the case against Kanakendra Narayan Dwijendra Lal Sen and Aktaruddin be stopped and not further proceeded with. This order shall be given effect to on the petitioners, *viz.*, Kumars Gojendra Narayan, Senior Bikashendra Narayan, Kamalendra Narayan, Kanakendra Narayan, Pritindra Narayan, Babus Jadab Lal Sen, Jogendra Lal Sen, Dwijendra Lal Sen with all the members of their families, fulfilling not later than September 21st 1916, the undertaking they have given by leaving my territory now and for ever.

The case of the petitioner Aktaruddin shall be considered and finally decided by me in Council. In the meanwhile he shall remain under suspension. Meanwhile the case shall stand adjourned and the accused released on bail."

It appears that the accused have in obedience to the order left the State of Cooch Behar with their families. Some of them are now in Calcutta

BARODA.

Bombay Chronicle.

Some very interesting particulars are published of the recent activities of the Baroda Library Department. As is well-known, library exhibitions in different parts of the State and cinema shows are recognised and very popular features of the work of the Department. The central library has a total stock of nearly 54,000 books exclusive of 30,000 Gujarathi,

Marathi and Sanskrit books, with an average circulation per working day of 177. The district libraries total 423, and are accommodated in buildings of their own. Then again there are travelling libraries, which render books accessible to people at their very doors, and of these there are 354 which supplied through 302 centres 15,000 books to over 7,500 readers. As marking the thoroughness of the organisation of the Department, it may be noted that the "visual instruction branch" of the Library worked with exceeding success. The fact that the village shows were witnessed by nearly 50,000 persons gives some measure of the usefulness of this mode of popular amusement and instruction. The Baroda Library movement, as a necessary adjunct of the States Educational system has amply justified itself. It is only necessary to add that the total expenditure on the maintenance of the libraries, which comes to about Rs. 58,000 is borne in equal shares by the State, the Punchayats and the people.

Tribune.

His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda thanked the Viceroy on behalf of his brother Princes in a speech which, for many reasons, will go down to posterity as one of momentous importance. The sight of the Gaekwar being the spokesman of an assembly of the Ruling Princes of all the scattered State in this vast country, is truly worthy of the gods, and, indeed such as would rejoice the hearts of the Wellesley brothers who it was that laid the foundations of the system of the Indian Protectorate.

The Gaekwar's leadership of the Princes at the Conference may also be said to mark a wonderfully rapid advance from the not very happy days of Lord Lansdowne and Lord Curzon, some of the happenings of which must even now be in the recollection of the Princes. He occupies a pre-eminent position among the Sovereign Princes of India, and has precedence over other Princes as being the first to enter into treaties with the British Government. The Princes of Kathiawar and Mahikanta acknowledge his suzerainty, and they pay him tributes annually In a sense the whole of Gujerat is a federation in miniature of self-governing States, with the Gaekwar at the head, who administers his own territory. For these, among other reasons it was peculiarly appropriate that the Princes' choice of the spokesman fell on His Highness the Gaekwar, and all India, not merely the States, will rejoice over the matter. As regards the speech which His Highness the Gaekwar delivered on behalf of his brother Princes in reply to His Excellency the Viceroy's opening address, it may in some respects be likened to the memorandum on post-war reforms already submitted to the Viceroy by the elected members of the Imperial Legislature.

MYSORE.

Indian Patriot.

It would be a pity if Sir M. Visveswarayya could not be there for another fifteen years; if the people had a voice, he would be. In Mysore, the Maharajah is the appointing authority, but the Maharajah has always valued popular opinion. I wonder why His Highness should ever think of a change in the Dewanship. I sincerely hope that there is no outside interference. Whole India is ringing with Sir M. Visveswarayya's praise,and there is a theory that if any one is about to become too popular, some of those at the top are apt to grow jealous of him. I have experience personally of officials dreading praise. "Kindly try your best not to put in any word for me" has not been at all an unknown request.

Sir M. Vivesvaraya, the Dewan of Mysore, in his speech to the Representative Assembly, remarked that the improvements to be effected in Mysore in the near future fell under three heads, one of which was the Improvement of the Administration. It is a rare occurrence for the Administrative Head of a province to openly invite criticisms and suggestions in regard to details of administration from public bodies. Such an invitation can only be the outcome of the realisation of the highest duties of statesmanship conceived in a most unselfish and patriotic spirit. From what we have known of this great man ever since he began to steer the ship of State, this exhortation is not a mere platitude. He belongs to the class of those few persons, whom the world could like to style as " Men of Action,"

Indian Patriot.

Well, the *Madras Mail* now congratulates Sir M. Visveswarayya on the commendable progress of minor irrigation works. Some special measures were promised a year ago—and to-day, in the face of the one thousand and one irons in the fire, these steps have been taken. And the *Mail* wishes that the Madras Government would imitate the Durbar. The *Mail* sighs for a Visveswarayya here. It is a commendable situation indeed. Not only that—the *Mail* goes in for a joke at the expense of the Madras Government!

New India.

The Mysore Government are pleased to direct that the following rules be observed in the selection of Major tanks for restoration:

A list of major tanks in each district should be maintained in a proper form. Usually, major tanks in each district should be taken up for restoration in the order of the revenue under them, when the ordinary rules of repairs and maintenance do not apply to them. Tanks the cost of restoration of which does not exceed ten years' revenue must first be restored in

preference to those requring a large outlay. Restoration of tanks involving extension of irrigation under them and consequently a large capital outlay likely to prove remunerative, should be carefully investigated in the order of their importance and urgency and taken up as funds become available. Tanks for which raiyats come forward with liberal contributions should have perference.

(N B)—Exception.—In cases, however of those tanks whose condition is such as to cause damage to those lower down the series or arailway line, their restoration should be undertaken without regard to the considerations set forth in Rules 2 to *supra*.

2. The Chief Engineer of Mysore is requested to have the lists, prepared forthwith and submit a programme of restoration for the next three years selecting cases in accordance with the above rules

SAVNUR.

Indian Patriot.

The little state of Savnur in the Bombay Presidency came into considerable prominence last year by the measures taken by the young Ruling Chief to separate executive and judicial functions. His Highness Lieutenant Nawab Abdul Majid Khan Dilair-Jung Bahadur is a young prince who has been in charge of the administration for only four years. But during this time he has endeared himself to Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon. The Nawab is on the staff of His Excellency as Honorary Aid-de-Camp. He stays at Government House and attends receptions as A.D.C. The Nawab was particularly requested by Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Willingdon to join their staff on the departure of His Excellency Lord Hardinge and the arrival of His Excellency Lord Chelmsford. There cannot be anything remarkable in the administration of a State with an area of seventy square miles and an income of a lakh and a half. But the one characteristic of the prince is his readiness to effect changes and try experiments for the progress of his subjects. Last year it was the separation of the judicial and executive functions; this year it is the grant of loans to weavers who suffer from lack of capital. A pressing and ginning factory has been set up by a private individual with the aid of a state loan. The interesting experiment is being tried in Savanur of teaching English to Mahomedan girls. The young Prince is quite frank in his report which, by the way, is written by himself in faultless English. "I will repeat," says the Nawab, "that with-

out the help of Political Officers we Native Chiefs can do but little, and I feel sure that you will help and advise me in the interests of the State whenever an occasion arises." We fear one such occasion has arisen with the distant relatives of the Nawab, whose "behaviour," we are told by the Nawab, "has not yet improved." The State has given them every opportunity to improve their conditions. A few of them who do business have been given loans at a very moderate rate of interest. Their sons were given free scholarships in the Scholl, but they did not choose to take advantage of it. The Nawab writes to the Political Agent as follows:—"I would refer you to the administration reports of so far back as 15 or 20 years ago to show that the Political Agents and the Dewans who came directly in contact with them during my minority held the same opinion as I do. There has been so much bifurcation in the family that the cash allowance sanctioned to the original granted is divided into so many branches now that it is hardly sufficient for one member of each branch to support himself. They try to get as much out of the state as possible, and when their applications are not granted, their usual method is to say anything and everything against the state and make as much of it as possible." That is certainly a nuisance, and the Political Agent might well advise what can be done to protect the State from the irresponsible libelling by distant relatives. His Highness has so much to do otherwise for the progress of the State that it is sickening he should be troubled by poor relatives.

KALSIA.

Punjabee.

The fifteenth birthday of His Highness the Raja of Kalsia, was celebrated at Kalsia House, Lahore, on Monday. After religious ceremonies, a durbar was held and *nazars* offered. Lala Nand Lal, Secretary Temperance Society, Amritsar, sang a congratulatory song composed for the occasion and made a congratulatory speech thanking the Raja Sahib and S. B. Sant Singh, President of the Council, for their interest in the cause of Temperance. The President thanked the Amritsar Temperance Society for their temperance work, congratulated His Highness and his mother the Maharani Sahiba on the auspicious birthday, asked the Raja Saheb to bear in mind the wholesome advice given recently by the Hon'ble Mr. Atkins, Political Agent, in handing him the *sanad* of Raja, and prayed for the victory of British arms. A donation of Rs. 51 was made to the Amritsar Temperance Society.

DEWAS 2.

Gazette.

The following speech was delivered by the Maharaja Saheb at the time of electric installation opening ceremony, Dewas Raj 2.

"Major Luard, Shrimant Kasesaheb and Gentlemen,—I have followed with deep interest what you, Kasesaheb, have just said on behalf of the Municipality. Truly our little Municipality has been showing aptitude and zeal in directions little anticipated of it at the time of its creation. When the idea of lighting Dewas by Electric Installation first reached my ears, I little thought that it would soon mature and fructify. I had for long imagined that our small State could ill afford to go in for this. But our labours have proved that it is within the range of practical politics and as such, you deserve, to no small degree, the thanks and gratitude of both the public as well as the State.

It was very considerate of the Municipality to have requested you Kasesaheb, to invite my sincere friend Major Luard on this occasion and we must all be sincerelythankful to him for having come over here for to-day's occasion. I consider that this is neither the time nor the occasion to make a speech and I now without anything more have the pleasure to call upon our distinguished guest to open the Electric Installation."

The following speech was delivered at the opening ceremony of lectures series:—

Gentlemen,—Dear Shrimant Khasesaheb gives me to understand that a number of kind hearted gentlemen have expressed their desire to inaugurate a series of lectures in honor of my birthday. It is very kind of you indeed, and I wish you success heartily. I may not be able to attend each and every lecture, but I want you to clearly understand that I will be watching with keen interest from where I am, all that is being said and done. I need hardly say that I look forward to some things very interesting indeed, to result from your undertaking

WANKANER.

Indian Patriot.

A Kathiawar correspondent states that the marriage of Kumari Takhtakunverba, eldest doughter of Maharana Raja Saheb of Wankaner with the minor Maharaja of Mayurbhanj (Orissa) will be celebrated in January next. This will be another inter-provincial alliance among the Chiefs.

Times of India.

His Highness the Maharana Raj Sahib Sir Amarshinji Bahadur, K. C. I. E, has abolished the import duty on ghee. An export duty on the same commodity at a rate of Rs. 2 per maund, if exported from the districts, and annas eight, if from the capital, has been imposed. The slaughter of cows and bullocks have been prohibited throughout the limits of the Vankaner State.

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THE COCHIN TOUR.

Indian Patriot.

H. H's special steamed up at 7-30 A. M. on the 26th at Delhi. The arrival was public and the platform was thickly crowded. The red baize was spread and Mr. Law the Political Secretary to His Excellency was ready at the platform to receive His Highness. After shaking hands with him, His Highness was conducted to the carriage waiting at the station. The usual salute of 17 guns was fired. His Highness was conducted to his residence at Underhill Lane and the Political Secretary took leave of His Highness at 8 A. M. The bungalow arranged for H. H's stay at Delhi is newly constructed to suit H. H's requirements. It is quite sufficient and can accommodate H. H. and party quite comfortably with separate quarters for all who accompanied His Highness. On the 27th His Highness accompanied by the Dewan and party paid a visit to the Fort buildings, where the beautiful palace of Shahjahan is located. The Superintendent of the Fort received His Highness and party at the gate at 9 A. M. and the several buildings of the Palace were shown in detail. His Highness highly appreciated the structural details. There are about dozen buildings in all, costing crores and crores of rupees. All of them are constructed of marbles, the building materials being marble gold, silver and precious stones such as rubies, diamonds emerald, saphire etc. The diamond palace of Shah Jahan is really splendid. The visiting hall, the drawing room, dressing room sports room, private room are all full of novelties and the ornamental work done at marbles inlaid with precious stones etc., is beyond description. The flowers and other ornamental works done with gold and precious stones on the walls in several places are simply excellent. The historical details of these works were very well explained by the Superintendent. The place at which the Peacock Throne used to be placed was also shown. These buildings are inside the fort with the River Jumna as their eastern boundary. The River gives a grandeur to these structures. At the southernmost end of these is the museum, containing the old relics of the Moghal Emperors, their photos, dress, ornaments, swords, weapons, etc. After visiting all these, His Highness returned home at 12 noon. At 4-30 P. M. H. H. and party went for an evening drive through the town and important roads of the locality and after visiting park and other places returned home at 7 P. M. The climate of the place is very cold and the chillness during nights is increasing day by day. The camp on the whole is quite healthy. Though the climate on the whole is very trying, there is nothing to complain about the health of the camp.

On the 28th at 4-30 P.M. His Highness and party motored to the Amphitheatre where the Proclamation ceremony in 1911 took place. A

pillar made of 7 granite stones, the pedestal of a rectangular pyramid, about 90 feet in height with steps all round leading to the bottom of it was shown and the Amphitheatre to the west of it where all the Maharajas were seated during the Proclamation ceremony was also shown.

His Highness drove through the Alipore Road, the Delhi City, the Cashmir Gate, the Delhi Gate, the Movri Gate, the Old City and returned home at 7, P. M

It is interesting to note that H. H. left out nothing important and worth seeing in the City of Delhi. Every minute of H. H. is crowded with engagements of all descriptions and not a minute.

The 29th was spent almost in rest to prepare for the hard work at the Princes' Conference to be commenced the next day, the chief object of His Highness' tour. Only in the evening at about 5 P. M. His Highness went on a pleasure drive through the Alipore Road and returned home at 6-30 P. M.

On the 30th, His Highness accompanied by Mr. Graham, I.C.S., the British Resident and Mr. Bhore the Dewan motored to the Council Chamber to attend the Princes' Conference at 11 A. M. The women of Cochin State should be proud to know that His Highness' Consort, Srimati Parakutti Ammal, also had the privilege of attending the important function held by the illustrious Princes of India with the special permission granted to her by Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Chemsford. Herself and His Highness' son Mr. Menon had special tickets to attend the Conference. The Consort was seated in the special seat arranged for her in the Visitor's Gallery all round, with two princess of Gondal. It is indeed the first time that a lady from our state is so highly honoured in such an important function. His Excellency arrived at 11-30 A M., when all the Princes and Ruling Chiefs took their seats. Our Ruler was seated in the front row and in a prominent place. His Excellency shook hands with all the Princes present and began his inaugural address. After this, His Excellency took leave of the Princes at 12-30 granting them full liberty to discuss the several important questions at the Conference, leaving His Excellency's Political Secretary Mr. Wood on the chair and the real Conference began at 12-30. The Conference lasted till 5-30 in the evening His Highness the Raja of Baroda, H. H. the Raja of Cochin, H. H. the Rajas of Bikanir, Gwalior, Alwar, Kolapur, Rewah, the Begum of Bhopal and the Maharaja of Kutch are the leaders of the Princes' Conference. The matters discussed are strictly confidential, several important matters concerning the Native States and the Imperial Government were freely discussed in the Conference. It need not be told that this Conference is the first of its kind and it will be held almost every year in the future.

After the Conference, His Highness and party visited one of the biggest Mosques in India, the Jumma Masjid and they were shown round the important parts of the Mosque constructed of bricks and marble inside the big domes. H. H. and party then mounted the tower to the south side of it about 150ft. in height and had a bird's eye view of the whole Delhi City. The Kutab Minor, about 11 miles from Delhi and the Tomb of Humayun were also shown from the top of the tower, which H. H. intends visiting. After this, H. H. and party were conducted downstairs and were greatly honoured by the priest who offered special services in the Mosque in honour of H. H's visit. Money was freely distributed to the poor people present there and H. H. returned home at 6-40 P. M.

On the 31st, His Excellency granted a private interview to His Highnes. The appointment was at 1110 A. M. H. H. accompanied by the Sarwadikarikar and Mr. V. K. Govinda Menon motored to the Viceregal Lodge and the portico was reached exactly at 11 9 A. M. where the A. D. C. was ready waiting to receive His Highness whose arrival was announced. His Highness had an interview for about 15 minutes and returned home at 11-30 A. M. and then went to the Conference at 11·45 A.M. and attended it till 1 P.M. and then again from 3-10 to 5 P.M.

His Highness was a prominent figure in the Conference of Princes and all the Princes assembled there crowded His Highness whose talents and views commanded respect. They were highly pleased at His Highness. kind and courteous manners. To exchange visits in these busy hours to all the Princes is almost impossible during such a short stay at Delhi. His Highness took a leading part in all the deliberations in the Conference, so much so, His Highness was elected as one of the Committee Members of the meeting, concerning the Insolvency Question Committee.

On the 1st instant a business meeting was held from 11-30 to 1 P.M which His Highness also attended, at which the report of the Committee was fully discussed, and submitted to the Government.

The Conference began at 3-30 and closed at 5-30. After the Conference, His Highness paid a private visit to His Highness the Maharaja of Benares and returned home at 6-30 P.M.

On the 2nd at 11 A.M. His Highness the Maharaja of Benares had his return visit to His Highness and after a few minutes' conversation took leave of His Highness to attend the Conference to be commenced at 11-30 A.M.

At 3 P.M. His Highness accompanied by the Dewan, Consort and son attended the Conference till 5 P.M. and returned home at 6 P.M.

There was an Evening Party held at 9-30 P.M. at the Viceregal Lodge this day. All the Princes and their staff were invited. His Highness, Consort and son accompanied by the Dewan, Mr. Menon and Sarvadhikarikar, motored to the place at 9-20 P.M. and alighting at the portico at the appointed time were conducted to the Reception Hall by the Secretary and the guests shook hands with Their Excellencies. His Highness and Consort were introduced to Their Excellencies and conversed with them for a few minutes and parted. The Evening Party was neatly arranged. The band was playing throughout the occasion. Their Excellencies conversed with one and all present very freely and the regular party began at 11 P.M. Seats were arranged both inside the Viceregal Lodge and in the extensive pavilion lit with electric lights all round. His Highness was very busy with all the Princes assembled there, freely conversing with them all. At 11-30 P.M. H. H. and party took leave of them all and motored to his residence for the night.

It is of course very pleasent to hear that His Highness was received very courteously by Their Excellencies and honoured by His Highness' brethren at the Conference, due reverence and respect being given to His Highness' knowledge and position. Whatever subject His Highness had to handle in the Conference and in whatever company His Highness moved, it is highly satisfactory to note that His Highness carried with him the admiration of his brethern in the Conference and the love of the people outside.

BARODA.

Tribune.

His Highness who is already a generous supporter of the institution saw the whole institution at work and was pleased with what he saw. His Highness' advice to Indians is "To educate." That, indeed, is the cornerstone of all progress, social, moral and religious, and His Highness' sage advice should be laid to heart by all Indian parents.

Punjabee.

It is a matter of common knowledge that His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda is a great beleiver in education. At the Kanya Mahavidyalaya at Jullundur which His Highness visited on Saturday last he had occasion to state the ideal that inspires him. It is gratifying to find that His Highness expressed himself highly pleased with the work of the Kanya Mahavidyalaya, the premier Hindu institution of its kind in this Province.

JATH.

Indian Patriot.

The Jath State, comprising 113 villages with an area of 884 square miles a population of 69,810, and revenue of two lakhs and a half, is, under the careful management of His Highness the young Chief fast steering clear of the financial encumbrances, and taking its place among the best governed of small States. Since the Chief assumed the administration of the State in 1907, the Government debt has been a constant source of anxiety to him. He has, however by a judicious economy in his Khasgi and the other departments of the State been able to pay off nearly Rs. 5,71,980 with interest and the debt now stands at Rs. 62,000 which he hopes to pay off by March 1917 of the current year turns out a normal one and thus free]off from the Government debt. The loyal enthusiasm of Jath for the Allies has often been displayed. Friday the 4th of August 1916—being the 2nd anniversary of Great Britain's entry into the great war, a large meeting of all classes and creeds was assembled in the old palace under the presidentship of the Chief. The school children performed a Marathi Drama in aid of the Belgian children's fund and afterwards special prayers were offered to God for the speedy success of British arms and the triumph of the cause she has so nobly espoused. The feeling that was uppermost in the mind of every one present in the assembly was a feeling of unswerving loyalty and devotion to His Majesty the King-Emperor. Of the death of Lord Kitchener, the following reference appears in the report: The most sorrowful event which occurred during the year and which caus d deepest regret all over the Empire was the sudden, untimely and tragic death at sea of Lord Kitchner, Secretary of State for war, on the 5th of June while proceeding on a special mission to Russia. The sad news of his death was first received by the Chief in the *Times of India* newspaper on the afternoon of the 7th June 1916 and he at once sent a telegram to Government through the Political Agent, Bijapur, expressing his profound regret at the sad news received and conveying his heart-felt condolence for the loss sustained by the Empire. He was a great soldier, a wise administrator and an experienced statesman and his death at the present juncture when Great Britain is fighting for liberty, freedom and righteousness, is a national calamity. A ruler who is anxious to be free from financial worry, even at great sacrifice, is actuated only by passionate love for efficiency. The Government debt paid, His Highness will turn to the development of agriculture, industry and his own people, for whom an excellent and liberal system of education is provided. These debts incurred will be productive works, interest for which will be paid by cesses collected from a prosperous people. His Highness, ably assisted by the State Karbhari Mr. S. R. Tirodekar, is in full command of the simplest details of administration and we look forward to rapid progress in every direction

BANGANAPALLE.

Indian Patriot.

Banganapalle, Nov. 8.—I was all the time of an agitated and confused mind, and could not send any account of the devastation caused by the floods at Banganapalle. I thought somebody else would have done it but nothing appears in the daily newspapers. Several hundred enquiries are referred to me and I cannot conveniently attend to replying them. Hence I am sending this as a first instalment of the account of ravages the floods caused in the State on Tuesday, the 31st October 1916.

On a corresponding Tuesday, the 24th October 1916, the river Zurreru was in full floods reaching a level which it did 25 years ago. This rising was not so alarming; yet it damaged some buildings, gardens and crops. Rangrezwadi has to be evacuated. The river commenced surging from 2 A.M., and began subsiding at 6-30 A.M. The people were relived of the anxiety, but rains continued their threats of downpour. The people were getting extremely tired of the rain A day or twos relief and rains again at intervals and it was how the people were faring before their final fate was struck. The eventful time was approached by a continuous downpour of rain from early morning of Monday, the 30th ultimo—and it so continued for 24 hours without a break for a moment raining all the time 9. 24 inches. During this torrential fall several hundreds of houses collapsed and not a single house escaped undamaged. The poor and the rich suffered alike. In the end it so happened that none could get out of a house or enter it as all the entrances were blocked up by the down coming of the walls and buildings. All the affected people ran away to places which were reckoned to be safe. No-sleep, no rest, no peace of mind, no cooking in hundreds of houses, but all wail and woe reigned these 24 hours. The distress was not confined to men alone, the animals equally suffered. There was hue and cry among them and they were let loose to take care of themselves. The tale of children who were mostly fed on cows' milk was lamentable. Thus the fore boders of the mementous hour marshalled in all their terror and ferocity and the people were just left to meet the danger which was imminent all unawares. The water of the river Zurreru was surging and rolling till at 4 A.M. of the 31st and then when they went down giving a false assurance to the people that the danger was now gone. With some sigh of relief the people just went in for a nap and lo! to their bewilderment the river commenced to rise again creating a general panic. The rise was by leaps and bounds and the people were led to think that the water might perhaps reach the highest flood level which it did on the 24th ultimo. This false notion overtook all the onlookers and alas! this proved to be a baseless idea. It was about 7-30 of Tuesday the 31st ultimo that the water overstepped its bounds and till

then peace and calmness prevailed—after which the barriers of patience gave way when nothing could prevent the gushing waters neither mounds, nor obstructions, nor any human contrivances. The pathetic scenes will be described in my next contribution.

TRAVANCORE.

The Conch.

His Highness' Birthday is a day of rejoicing in this State and gains more fervor year after year. This is the natural and inevitable result of a benign Government and a brilliant reign. His Highness has endeared himself to the stranger and the subject alike. A Sovereign has not ruled in vain who has educated his subjects to work a Popular Assembly and to press for a University. A Sovereign has not ruled in vain who has opened the public roads and the Public Hall to the Pulaya and to the Paer alike. A Sovereign has not ruled in vain who has made it possible for all missions to prosper—Ramakrishna, Theosophic, Masonic, Christian, and Muslim side by side. A Sovereign has not lived in vain who has illustrated for the benefit of his subjects the compatibility of unrivalled cosmopolitanism and unapproachable orthodoxy. That Sovereign has certainly not lived in vain who has never subordinated considerations of religion to those of politics, but on the other hand, rules as a *Dasa*. So to be a *Dasa* of *Sri Padmanabha* first, and then to be a Governor of the People is the political ideal of the Model State—an ideal in itself. This ideal it is that will make Travancore a Model State to the world at large. This ideal is its present charm and its future strength.

HYDERABAD.

United India and Native States.

We referred in our article dealing with the administration of the Mysore State to a tabular statement given in the address of the Dewan of Mysore which indicated the main heads of progress in advanced countries and the state of affairs under those heads in Mysore. The figures given will be found very interesting, and we wish that the various provincial administrations in British India also prepared such comparative statements, and fixed a standard of progress to be aimed at, so that they may be furnished with progressive ideals which may be worked up to. Though considerable advance yet remains to be made by the Hyderabad State in regard to the development of education among the people, substantial progress has been made.

PUDUKOTTAH.

Indian Mirror.

Pudukotta is a well-governed State, and we need refer to only a few features of the administration to illustrate this remark. Though the area of the State is only a little over a thousand miles, there are, under State management, a second grade college, two lower secondary schools, three special schools and 170 primary schools. The people of Pudukkotta have since had many a proof of the Rani's keen interest in the welfare of the State, and they feel that all their expectations are about to be realised. One notable concession already granted to the people is the expansion of the elected element in the Representative Assembly.

The Durbar would appear to be most solicitous about the spread of education. The necessity of providing educational institutions with adequate homes and suitable surroundings has been engaging its attention, and funds are provided year after year for the construction of pucca school houses in these centres in which they are badly needed. We notice with particular satisfaction the steps taken for the moral and religious improvement of pupils. A children's Guild has been founded to encourage a spirit of virtue and manliness amongst children. It is fixed for the 27th November —the Birthday of the Raja—when all the school children are expected to meet at the capital, take part in the inter-school sports and hear the recital of meritorious deeds done by themselves or by their brethren. Two night schools exist for the benefit of poor boys who have a genuin desire to read but who cannot find time by day. Pudukkottai, in short, continues to be administered most efficiently by the State Council, of which the present President is Mr. Sidney Burn, I.C.S.

DEWAS 2.

Mahratta.

The Report on the working of the Panchayats in Dewas State, (Junior,) for the year 1914 15, affords valuable reading. We learn from the report that so far back as in the year 1906, His Highness toured in the Perganas in order to gain a first hand knowledge of the Rayats with respect to their capacity and willingness to share the responsibilities of village administration. No move could be made by reason of unfavourable administrative environments till October 1911 when at the instance of His Highness, Sardar Kibe, the then Dewan, drew up a tentative scheme for Village Panchayats and offered it for the discussion of the public. Administrator Capt. Burke improved it by freely using the Patiala and other Panchayat Acts.

RAJPIPLA.

Indian Patriot.

The young prince of twenty-six years of age, who succeeded to the late Rajah of Rajpipla, has begun well, and has been actuated by some high and definite ideals in administration from which nothing but good can result. His Highness has definitely adopted the principle "of employing local men" in every department and every high office. This means that the claims of education will have to be specially acknowledged, for an efficient administration requires capable officials, and only education can train local men into being good officials. Another definite purpose of Rajpipla administration is the improvement of agriculture, which is the mainstay of the people. There are vast areas of cultivable lands lying waste. A very large percentage of the fifteen lakhs, which denote the income of the State, is derive from agriculture, and systematic effort are to be made to improve it. The young Ruling Prince. was educated at the Rajkumar College, Rajkot. After having successfully passed the final Diploma Examination of that Institution, in which he stood first, he joined the Imperial Cadet Corps at Dehra Dun, where his career was equally successful. He visited Europe twice and had also the advantage of acquiring some practical training in administrative work under the able guidance of Mr. R. C. Browne, then Collector of Belgaum. After his return from Belgaum, he had further opportunities to get an insight into the working of the several departments of the State, and, thus, when he ascended the *Gadi*, he was well equipped for the heavy responsibilities which devolved on him. "He takes a very keen interest in all that pertains to the welfare of his State and his subjects, and the latter may well be congratulated on having such an intelligent and sympathetic ruler to guide their future destinies." The full vigour of His Highness' rule is seen in almost every department. The Madras system is introduced in the Abkari Department. A Forest Department is to be created, with, we hope, safeguards enough to protect the people from blood sucking forest guards.

Rajpipla has a bright future in its forests. As it is, we read that forest administration is much handicapped by the privileges and concessions so liberally made to the people in former times. "It is a matter, therefore, for careful consideration whether, with a settled Government and the advance of prosperity in the State, these privileges and concessions should still be continued. In any case the wholesale destruction of trees by the ryots, which is noticeable in all Talukas, so much so that some of the beautiful camping grounds have been quite denuded of all shady trees, must be immediately checked." More than one-half of the area of the State is, more or less, covered with forest, but the area demarcated for working in accor-

dance with the principles of scientific forestry is much less. The demarcated area at the close of the preceding year was 397·94 square miles, which was, however, reduced during the year to 390·70 square miles. The system in force for the working of the State forests and the realisations of forest revenue is that which is known as the *Dan* system, under which State subjects and others are permitted, subject to the reservations and limitations mentioned above to cut and remove forest produce on payment of *Dan* or royalty. The rates at which *Dan* or royalty is levied are liable to be revised from time to time, and a schedule specifying the rates of royalty, the *Nakas* at which they are payable, the privileges conceded to State subjects and all other information useful to the people working in the forests is published every year before the commencement of the working season. All people residing in the State are allowed to graze their cattle in the State forests without having anything to pay for the concession. Similarly, they are at liberty to cut and remove such quantities of grass and fire-wood as they might require for their domestic purposes. In addition to these privileges, Bhils, Dhankas, and people of other aboriginal tribes are allowed to cut and remove grass and firewood for sale within the limits of the State. Similar privileges are conceded to all State subjects in respect of minor forest produce also. Free grants of timber for house-building and agricultural purposes are also given on a liberal scale. To protect the forests is one thing; to protect the forests and at the same time protect the long enjoyed privileges of the people is quite another, and care must be taken that in the name of efficient rule the subject of His Highness should not be made to suffer.

There, are several important directions in which reform is found necessary. Villages in the hilly parts have yet no revenue settlement. Operations are in progress to bring them under settlement. Until the completion of these operations, the old Halbandi or plough-tax system will continue in force in them. According to this system, revenue is assessed on the number of ploughs or bullocks actually employed in the cultivation of land. But as this system is much liable to abuse, and the Bhills who are mostly affected by it, are adopting a more settled life, it will soon be abolished. Rajpipla has a paying railway system; and with the development of communications, trade and commerce are engaging the attention of the State. But the State is purely agricultural, and it is gratifying to read that "increase in agricultural resources, expansion in cultivation and rise in the population afford unfailing indications of a general and steady progress There has been a steady rise in all kinds of animals in ryots' possession, especially the increase of about 3900 in bullocks, so essential for cultivation, " an index to the prosperity of the agricultural classes.' Primary education is free in the case of all boys belonging to the Rajput, Mahomedan and Kaliparaj com-

munities and of all girls attending primary schools. In the case of others, a small fee of one anna per mensem is charged but even this small fee is remmitted in the case of those who cannot afford to pay it. Secondary education is very cheap. The fees charged are low and range from four annas in the first standard to one rupee in the highest. A very large number of scholarships are provided for deserving boys. Of His Highness interest in education, we need only refer to the following fact. Several concessions to his subject were announced on the occasion of the Installation, according to which all revenue arreas up to the end of the Samvat year 1966 were remitted, but the most important was the institution of scholarships for boys desiring to study electricity and medicine. Some deserving officers received an increase of salary and in other cases the widows of some of the officers of the State who had died in harness were granted pensions.

PATIALA.

Times of India.

The doctrine, by no means peculiar to the Sikh religion, that death in battle is preferable to all other ends of life was enunciated with considerable eloquence in the Durbar speech in which the Maharaja of Patiala has appealed for recruits. His Highness is to be congratulated on the frankness with which he spoke and on the skill with which he appealed to the two motives, of religion and patriotism, most likely to awaken a response among his subjects. He asked them to "bear in mind that he whose days are not yet numbered shall come out unscathed from under the heavy fire ofthe enemy, but he whom it is the will of God to call away can never escape from death even in the midst of home comforts or the medical men pouring the elixir of life down his throat Why not they adopt a course which may enable you not only to pass your lives in happiness but to leave behind you your name and deeds for the coming generations to be pround of." The alternative to voluntary service suggested by His Highness is complusion, not, we gather, for the fighting ranks but for the transport. As the first reference so,far as we know to the possibility of introducing compulsory service in a native State this is a very notable utterance. We do not anticipate that it will ever be necessary to resort to that extreme in India, but the fine spirit which prompted the suggestion is as welcome as the reminder that an unendin-stream of men is wanted until such time gathe enemy is beaten.

BANGANAPALLE.

Punjabee.

Banganapalle, Nov. 8.—In continuation of my first contribution regarding the floods at Banganapalle, let me state that only when the waters passed the original limits and went on rolling over the houses, the people realized the gravity of the situation. It was as sure as daylight that the Tank of Jalapuram which was 7 miles from the town should have breached as never in the annals of Banganapalle had floods crossed the outskirts of the town. Now the fate of Banganapalle was sealed and doomed. There was nothing to save the lives except the creator. Not a minute could be lost to free oneself from danger. Males, females, and children were all fleeing to find out a place of rescue, deserting their valuable property. But that place was not known. Nobody knew where to go and how to escape from danger. Hundreds of people of all castes and creeds rushed into the palace where they were accommodated by the Nawab. When the Fort could not accommodate any further they had to stay on a narrow strip of road, hardly a furlong in length almost encircled by water without any exit to get out of danger. Upon this strip of land crowds of people from a common Paraya cooly to the highest official, the Dewan, were awaiting their final fate at every moment. Gosha ladies had to forget their purdha, familes of nobles had to intermingle equally with the low classes, children were hugging their mothers, some crying, some were praying, a few were found in dumb resignation, some were casting appealing looks and what not. In the meanwhile the news of the perils of life were broken to the Nawab and he was besought to leave the Fort by motor and to get up a hill which is five miles from this town.

JUNAGADH.

Times of India.

It is proposed to hold an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition in Junagadh on 2nd February next, and the three days following with a view to develop agriculture and to encourage indigenous industries. The show will be purely agricultural and open to Junagadh subjects only for exhibit purposes provided that a outside firms shall be at liberty to exhibit and advertise agricultural implements and aids; (b) the Forest Paddock and Garden Departments will be invited to send non-competitive exhibits. Such produce as cereals, pulses, oilseeds, sugarcane, vegetables, fodder plants, food cakes, etc., will be admitted ; and such livestock as bulls, bullocks, cows, buffaloes, and C.B., and Kathi ponies, provided that such produce or animals have been grown or reared within Junagadh State limits.

BARODA.

Indian Patriot.

It gives us great pleasure to read the letter of Mr. Ponnambalam Pillai, the retired Excise Commissioner of Travancore and a good Tamil scholar, to His Highness the Gaikwar of Baroda who has come forward to defray the cost of preparing and publishing a rendering into English of *Tolkappyam.*

Punjabee.

His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda honored the Hindu Girls High School, Delhi, with a visit on the 5th instant. He was extremely pleased with what he saw and was also good enough to make a donation of Rs. 3 000 to the funds of the school, as also Rs. 50 for the sweets of the children.

His Highness very kindly made the following remarks in the visitors book: His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda visited the Indraprastha Girls' High School and was shown over the institution by R. B. Sultan Singh and the Lady Superintendent. His Highness was much struck with the useful work done in this High School. The problem of female education is a difficult one, especially in Northern India, and His Highness admires the selfless devotion of the lady teachers in the mission which they have undertaken for the improvement and education of the Zenana Classes in Delhi. The method and manner of imparting education were examplary."

TIPPERAH.

Bengalee.

The birthday anniversary of His Highness the Maharaja Birendra Kishore Manikya Bahadur of Tipperah was celebrated on the 30th of October at Sabroom, Noakhali. At 9 A.M. a pujah was celebrated to the Goddess Kali. A public meeting was held at Sabroom Town Hall at 3 P.M. presided over by the Divisional Officer Babu R. K. Chakrabarty. The President and Babus Priya Nath Sen, S. A. S. Ramagarh, R. G. Chowdhury, J. K. Mazumdar and Tarak Ch. Chakravarty, Pleader delivered lectures speaking highly of His Highness and mentioning many his acts of improvements in the administration. All present prayed for His Highness the Maharaja Manikya Bahadur's long life and prosperity. In the evening the whole town was illuminated. There was a grand procession of "Hari Sankritan" in the town from 6 to 10 P.M. The Divisional Officer being all along present in the "Hari Sankritan" the public was very highly moved in the affair.

DAVAGADH-BARIA.

Advocate of India.

Rao Bahadur Harilal M. Parekh, Dewan Saheb Devgadh-Baria, retired from Dewanate this month after having held the post with honour to himself and advantage to the State for a period of over thirty-five years. The State owes much to Dewan Harilal for its advancement and prosperity the appreciation of which manifested itself when His Highness the Maharaja Saheb held a special Durbar in his honour to mark the event of his retirement, and presented him with a robe of honour. A special resolution issued the 'Durbar Gazette" was also published in which his Highness Maharaja Ranjitsinghji took the opportunity of eulogising the long and meritorious services of Mr. Harilal. Amongst the public buildings that have come into existence during the recent years are two presented to the State by the retiring Dewan.

Motilal Parekh, M. A., L. L. B, who had been acting as Naib-Dewan and who had received efficient training under Dewan Harilal has been appointed Dewan and he was also presented with the robe of Dewan by His Highness at Durbar.

COCHIN.

Indian Patriot.

The Consort of His Highness the Rajah of Cochin was present at the Chief's Conference, in company with the Gondal Princesses. The Consort is a really able and educated woman, and wherever she has gone during the tour she has created an excellent impression of the womanhood of the State. Cochin is more advanced educationally than any other Indian State; in point of female education, Cochin is far ahead indeed of all.

KISHENGARH.

Express.

H. H. the Maharaja Sir Madan Singhji Bahadur, K. C. I. E, of Kishengarh has consented to preside over the ensuing session of the Kshatri Upakarini Mahasabha to be held in Bankipur on the 27th, 28th, and 29th Dec. 1916—The Maharaja Bahadur is an enlightened Feudatory Chief of Rajputana and takes a very keen interest in the welfare of his subjects.

JAIPUR.

Viceroy's Camp, (Jaipur.) Nov. 9.—The following is H. E. the Viceroy's speech at the opening ceremony of the Jaipur-Shaikhawati Railway:—

Your Highness, ladies and gentlemen:—It gives so much pleasure to be present here to-day to perform the opening ceremony of the Jaipur Shaikhawati Railway, and I have heard with much interest the account of the new railway which has just been read by Your Highness' Superintending Engineer, Mr. Stotherd. No Viceroy can be indifferent to the extension of India's railway system, and I am very glad to be associated with the opening of this section of your new railway. I should Like to take this opportunity of congratulating Your Highness on this proof of your great interest in the development of the resources of your State and the improvement of the communications and facilities for trade and commerce. I am informed that the Shaikhawati towns are the homes of many of the wealthiest and most influential 'seths' and merchants of Bombay, Calcutta and of all the great trading centres of India, and to them, the new railway will come as the greatest boon. The stern features of this northern country also produce the sturdy and martial races of Shaikhawati who have furnished, for the Indian army of His Majesty the King-Emperor, some of the best soldiers whose deeds in France and Gallipoli, in Egypt, in Africa and Mesopotamia have already earned undying fame. These races have contributed their part in the great struggle for the liberation of the world from the aggressive despotism with which it is threatened. I am informed that 1,800 recruits have been enlisted for the district of Shaikhawati since the beginning of the war, and that thousands of military prisoners enjoy the fruits of their meritorious service in the Jaipur State. These facts remind us of the military history of Your Highness' State and race and carry on the fine tradition of your Highness' illustrious predecessors. Among those stands out pre-eminent the figure of Maharajah Man Singh, a contemporary of the famous Emperor Akbar, whose confidence he enjoyed in the highest degree and from whose hands he received the command of 7000 troops and the Governorship, successively, of Kabul, Bengal, Behar and Orissa.

It now only remains for me to say that I shall have great pleasure in acceding to Your Highness' request to perform the opening ceremony of the first section of the Jaipur-Shaikhawati railway and in doing so to wish every success to the undertaking which has been carried out under Your Highness orders and through your Highness' capable Superintending Engineer, Mr. Stotherd.

Viceroy's Camp (Jaipur,) Nov. 11—The following is H. H. the Maharaja's speech at the Banquet at Jaipur last night:—

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen,—When I had the honour and pleasure of a private interview with Your Excellency at Delhi after Your Lordship assumed the Viceroy in April last, Your Excellency received me with much kindness and cordiality and expressed such friendly interest in me and my State that I was emboldened to make a request that Jaipur might be included in the programme of Your Excellency's winter tour this year. Your Excellency assured me that it would afford you great pleasure to pay a visit to Jaipur, if nothing unforeseen happened. Now that my heart's desire to receive Your Excellency at my captial has been fulfilled, I do not know how sufficiently to express the gratitude and joy I feel. I am indeed very proud that Jaipur should be the first State to receive a visit from His Majesty the King-Emperor's representative in India. Much as I am gratified by the visit of Your Excellency to my capital, the pleasure has been greatly enhanced by the presence of Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford.

Fortunately after two successive years of drought we have had a good and timely rainfall which has given rise to hopes of a good harvest and abundant fodder, things that will bring cheer to the homes of my people, who, I may assure Your Excellency, regard this visit as most auspicious.

The thought that is uppermost in our minds at the present moment is the European war, which has been dragging its weary length for over two years now and has demanded such large sacrifices of men and money not only from the United Kingdom but also from the world-wide British Empire. Your Excellency, in the speech delivered on the occasion of the opening of the autumn session of the Imperial Legislative Council at Simla, referred to the share that India has taken in this war in the defence of the cause of justice and righteousness against unwarranted aggression. Your Excellency also mentioned in terms of the greatest appreciation the services which the Ruling Chiefs and Princes of India have rendered to the Empire on this critical occasion. I firmly believe that they are all justly proud that they were able to do some services to the British Empire as a mark of their gratitude for the blessings of peace and security they have enjoyed under the beneficent protection of the British Throne. For my own part, I feel I have not been able to do as much as I wished, as, owing to old age, I am unable personally to join those of my brother Princes who are at the front and on account of the partial famine that prevailed in Jaipur since the commencement of the war. I was hampered in many ways. I, however, placed my Transport Corps at the disposal of the Government and I am informed that it is doing its share of work to their satisfaction in Mesopotamia. For the last few months there has been a marked change in the manner in which the

advance of our enemy has been checked. In fact the tables are turned and the Allies' armies are gaining ground every day on all fronts and maintaining successfully their newly-won positions. The end of this terrible struggle is in sight and the day is, we devoutly pray, not far off, when the Allies will gain a complete and glorious victory over this enemy of civilization.

As it is customary, on an occasion like this, to give a brief account of what has been done in the State since the last Viceregal visit, I venture to trespass on Your Excellency's attention and touch upon a few of the more important events that have taken place in my administration during the past four years. I have just mentioned that there has been drought in Jaipur for the last two years in succession and the consequence was great scarcity of food grains and especially of fodder. From our experience of the great famine of 1899-1900 we know the value of railways in facilitating transport of food grains and fodder and it was with this end in view that I sanctioned the survey and alignment of a line from Jaipur to Lohoru in the Punjab, a distance of 130 miles, within Jaipur territory through Shekhawati, the tract of country in which the difficulty of transport is greatest. I am very much indebted to Your Excellency for the great honour Your Lordship has done me in performing the opening ceremony of the first section of the Jaipur-Shekhawarti Railway. This line will open up, when completed, some of the areas most affected by famine and connect with the capital some very important towns in my territory.

I take this opportunity to express my high appreciation of the very valuable services rendered in this connection by Mr. Stotherd, my Superintending Engineer and his staff. Another result of the failure of the monsoon was the fall in the sub-soil level of water and consequent diminution in the area under cultivation by well irrigation. To remedy the distress owing to scarcity of fodder for cattle, my Durbar had to import a considerable quantity of fodder from outside, and in the freight alone over a lakh and a quarter of rupees had been paid. Subsidence of the subsoil water level affected not only the agricultural operations but also the water supply of the city. Five new wells had to be sunk in the bed of the river in addition to the existing ones, which, in former years, yielded a plentiful supply. To meet the increased demands in the city which, during the hot weather reached one million gallons per day, new pumping machinery had to be installed. As there are no perennial streams within my territory and as unfortunately, rainfall is too often deficient, it has been the policy of my Durbar to add to the number of irrigation works year by year and in accordance with this practice two new irrigation dams, the Dhel-Nadi and Hengonia Bunds have been completed within the past four years at a total outlay of nearly four lakhs of rupees.

From the year 1908 the lighting of the city has been done by means of gas made from crude kerosine oil, but on account of increased demands, sanction had to be given for the construction of an up-to-date coal gas installation at a cost of one lakh and fifteen thousand rupees. Amongst other minor improvements I may mention the new road to Amber. The old step track has been replaced by the new road on an easy gradient winding through the hills and over the Ghat through a cutting nearly forty feet below the old road. Though it has cost the State a little over a lakh of rupees yet it has not only afforded great convenience to tourists visiting the old city and palace, which was, for six centuries, the home of my ancestors, but has facilitated the import of produce from the districts into the markets at Jaipur and also provided an easy access to the nearest railway station.

I have greatly wished that Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford should perform the opening ceremony of the Female Hospital ward, which is to bear the name of Lady Hardinge whose genuine interest in the welfare of the Indian Zennana ladies is evinced by the Medical College for Women in Delhi, an institution which will ever remain a monument of the large hearted sympathy which the late Viceroy had for the women of India and her untiring efforts to mitigate their sufferings. The Lady Hardinge Hospital ward, when completed, will accommodate nine small families who observed strict rules of purdah. It is hoped that this privilege of staying with the patient will be very much appreciated and will make hospital treatment more popular with this class of people than it is now. I am greatly disappointed that the building is not yet ready but I do sincerely trust that Her Excellency will find time to pay even a short visit to Jaipur again and perform the opening ceremony of this ward. Jaipur is only a few hours' journey from Delhi and may I express the hope that Her Excellency during the next Delhi season will be able to spare time to come here for the purpose.

I should not let this occasion pass without a brief reference to the Conference of Ruling Chiefs which attended the other day at Delhi. I shall not touch upon the subjects discussed in the meeting nor upon the far-reaching effects that such Conference will have on the well being of the Ruling Chiefs and their States, I shall only voice the opinion of all the Princes and Chiefs assembled there and express our gratification to Your Excellency for having shown such keen interest in, and genuine sympathy with our aims and aspirations. I sincerely hope that these meetings will continue to be held from year to year and secure to us the benefits which accrue from a free exchange of views on subjects affecting our States.

As this will probably be the last Viceregal visit in which my old friend Sir Elliot Colvin will be present, I would very much like to express publicly my deep obligations to him for his readiness to help me with sound

advice and counsel in all matters of State during the long period of his incumbency as the Agent to the Governor-General in Rajputana. I desire, therefore, to thank him now for the many acts of kindness and courtesy he has shown to me. With his name, I would very much desire to associate that of my friend Colonel Benn who has, ever since he has been accredited to my States lent me valuable assistance whenever I required it. My best thanks are especially due to Mrs. Benn on whom has devolved the arduous duties of hostess on behalf of the Durbar and I well know how much the success of my efforts for the entertainment of my illustrious guests has depended on the tact and foresight of the lady at the Residency.

Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, I will not detain you any longer than is necessary to propose the toast of the evening. I call upon you to drink to the health and prosperity of my illustrious guests, Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Chelmsford.

H.E. the Viceroy in reply said:—

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I am much obliged to Your Highness for the cordial terms in which you have proposed our healths and to you, ladies and gentlemen for the manner in which you have received the toast. In the first place I should like to say that I appreciate most fully the warm tribute which Your Highness had paid to Sir Elliot Colvin. In him the Rajput State has had for many years, a sincere and devoted friend and I am indeed glad to learn from Your Highness' lips of the deep feelings of gratitude and regard with which Jaipur repays him. I also desire to associate myself with the thanks which your Highness has expressed to Colonel and Mrs Benn for all that they have done to assist us in the full enjoyment of Your Highness' bounteous hospitality. This is my first official visit to a Native State in India and the warmth of our welcome, though not un-expected in the capital of the Maharaja of Jaipur, has deeply touched us both. The pleasure of the visit has been enhanced by the exquisite beauty of the surroundings and by the opportunity which it has given me of improving my acquaintances with the distinguished Prince, whom I met for the first time at Delhi in April last. As His Highness has observed, the first subject of our thoughts at present must be the great European war, with the progress of which, though no man can predict when the end will come, we have every reason to be satisfied that the events of the past few months have completely changed the situation and the success of the allied cause, though this was never in doubt, has now been rendered doubly certain. Let us all hope that the end will come soon and that the efforts and sacrifices which we have made will be crowned by a complete victory which, though it cannot restore to mankind all that it has lost, should ensure for many generations to come freedom from the horrors of war and a wholesome respect for the rights o-

nations and the laws of civilisation. When the final victory comes it will be a pleasure to reflect on the great part played by the Native States of India in achieving this result, and I feel confident that all here will agree with me that among the foremost to set the tone of loyalty in India in this crisis and give moral and material support to our Allies must be placed our host of this evening, the Maharaja of Jaipur, whose princely contributions of which I have just received another proof in the gift of rupees 50,000 in honour of my first visit, have added to this already famous name for loyalty and generosity, and whose Imperial Service Transport Corps is now doing most valuable work in Mesopotamia.

I have been glad to learn from Your Highness' modest statement the progress that has been made in the development of irrigation works and of railways in the State. I congratulate you on what has been achieved and wish every success to your further undertakings. Your Highness is, I am aware, strongly conservative in your ideas as is not unnatural in one of the oldest rulers in Rajputana, and although ready to adopt new ways when such appear to be for the public advantage you are naturally slow to make a change merely for changes sake when no material benefit appears to you likely to follow. I fully understand Your Highness' attitude, but I am at the same time confident that should need arise for reform in any direction your sense of public duty will prompt you to do what is best for your people and for the Empire at large.

As regards the Lady Hardinge's Hospital ward which to-day I have had an opportunity of visiting in its uncompleted state, Lady Chelmsford asked me to say that she is deeply interested in the scheme, which will not only help to perpetuate the memory of the gracious lady, whose name it bears, but also promises to be a real boon to the Purdah ladies of Jaipur She is grateful to Your Highness for inviting her to perform the opening ceremony and hopes to find an opportunity for visiting Jaipur later for this purpose. . . .

Ladies and Gentlemen, I feel that in proposing the toast of His Highness the Maharaja, I am speaking to an appreciative audience and that no words of mine are needed to describe his shrewdness, his generous loyalty and public spirit and his genuine kindliness of heart. I ask you therefore to join with me in drinking to the health, long life, prosperity and happiness of our host Major General, His Highness, Sir Sawai Madho Singh Bahadur of Jaipur.

AJAIGARH.

DASARA GREETINGS.

The following singular marksmanship and gladiatorship were displayed by Sawai Nati Raja Prince Lakshman Singhji, grand-son of His Highness Sawai Maharaja of Ajaigarh State (the eldest son of His Highness' second son Prince Jaipal Singhji.)

MARKSMANSHIP (10TH OCTOBER 1916.)

1. Four earthen pots of different colours were tied up and hung against a bamboo 'Kondal' and turned round and round, and during the course of thus being given to rotatory motion the Prince shot successfully the very particular pot as optionally chosen and pointed by the visitors.

2. Four earthen pots of different colours were kept hung against a wooden pole and blown again and again; meanwhile the prince shot the very pot which he was pointed out at the option of the visitors.

3. A lemon was kept on a head. The prince shot the objective so skilfully that the head was not affected in the least.

4. Four smaller earthen pots of different colours were stored in a bigger pot which thereafter having been hung was turned round and round. While the pot was thus whirling, the Prince, to the great admiration of all present, shot exactly the same pot inside that he was particularly told to shoot at.

5. He fired the mark behind him, having kept his gun on his shoulder.

6. Having shut up his eyes with a four-fold piece of cloth, he successfully shot the object gauging the exact position by a noise on it caused by one of the visitors with a wooden rod.

7. Having laid flat on the back on a table he shot the mark fixed just behind his head.

8. Having laid down on the back on the ground he shot the mark directing the rifle by means of his foot fingers.

9. After shooting the marked point, the bullet came back into the barrel.

10. The kernel of an almond was broken by a shot while the upper portion remained unchanged.

11. A red flower was fixed as a shooting mark and as soon as the Prince shot, the flower miraculously converted into a white colour.

12. A flamed wax candle was kept as a mark; the Prince shot it so dexterously that the candle stood untouched and the flaming portion struck off.

13. Four pomegranates were kept separately on different earthen jars, and were shot by the Prince in a single fire while the jars were not affected at all.

14. Four earthern jars of different colours were fixed and the Prince, although with eyes shut up with a thick piece of bandage, shot successfully the jar particularly point out,

15. Four different marks were fixed and named differently without the knowledge of the Prince who shot the mark as named out by a visitor.

16. A fish was fixed above and the Prince shot it seeing below in a looking-glass (just as was done by Arjuna, the hero of Mahabharat.)

17. A lemon was thrown in a deep well and when the fruit was seen floating on the surface of the water, the Prince shot at such a position that the lemon got up the well with the balance therewith.

18. A man sat at a distance with a cocoanut in his hand. The Prince shot at the cocoanut so skilfully that half of its portion was cut off while the other half remained unaffected in the man's hand.

SWORDSMANSHIP.

1. A man was laid down on the ground flat on the back and a tavoi, a kind of vigetable was kept on his belley. The Prince cut the tavoi off with his sword so skilfully that the belley of the man remained untouched.

2. The next time he cut off a tavoi kept on the man's neck.

3. A brinjal was folded in a handkerchief. The Prince cut it so beautifully and so dexterously that the brinjal was cut off while the handkerchief remained unaffected.

Besides this the said Prince and his younger brother Prince Mahipal Singh displayed another miraculous sport as described below :—

Each of the said Princes on horse-back took a wooden stick in their hands and after sporting with each other for a few minutes, as soon as the corresponding points of both sticks happened to come in contact with each other, they began flaming like a burning candle and the visitors remained wonder-struck.

Next day the 11th October was the scene of the following marvellous feats of military sports.—

His Highness Sawai Maharaja Sir Ranjore Singh Bahadur K.C.I.E. displayed peculiar swordsmanship and the sports of Buteti on horse-back with his son-in-law Rao Raja Ealla Panjan Singh who was also showing his skill mounted on horse.

It is remarkable that His Highness, in spite of his old age of 72, labours so hard in manly sports and military feats, a fact which must be a source of pride to the community of Kshatrya-Chiefs. It is but His Highness who has taught his sons, grand-sons, great grand sons and his son-in-law so well used in all of the above mentioned swordsmanship and marksmanship. The aforefaid Rajkumars are at the same

time well up in English and vernacular languages; and some of them are still prosecuting their studies.

Following the above show, the Ajaigarh Cavalry Officer Risaldar Bashist Singh, His Highness' grand sons, Prince Lakshman Singh with his younger brother Prince Mahipal Singh (the sons of Prince Jaipal Singhji) Prince Pranatpal Singh (the eldest son of Prince PakshpalSingh, His Highness' third son) Dafedar Parmeshri Dayal Singh (the son of Risaldar) displayed the following feats most ably and skilfully :—

Pegging, Target practice, Wrestling on horse-back. etc.

It should be noted here that in the first instance the said Risaldar was to play his part, thereafter followed the said three grand-sons of His Highness displaying the Target practices marvellously, having their horses on spur.

K. Trilok Singh, His Highness' Private Secretary, Dewan Baldeo Singh and K. Nahar Singh played their part well in marksmanship, sword-play and Damanak. Dewan Pratap Singh and K. Gajraj Singh showed the feat of 'Adra' in an admirable way.

Nawabs Shamsher Bahadur, Azmat Ali and Jafar Jang also played well in 'Damanak' feat.

Evening of the 11th :—

The Ajaigarh Artillery Sepoys under the guidance of Captain Raghunath Prasad displayed the following feats to the great amazement of all present :—

Gymnastic and horizanal bar performances, and the astounding play of Jhoola (to remain standing on a rope at the height of 25 feet and after jumping down with full force tied in legs with the same rope to hang down upset.) to turn about round and round in force, to sit in Jhoola, just like a Charkhi and then after jumping down to remain hung against it.

Another puzzling and astonishing feat was performed as follows :—

One Kirat Singh Hawaldar having himself tied in legs against a rope at a height of 20 feet nearly, caught hold of a gun weighing 2 maunds and fired it out by means of his teeth.

In the same way the other brave fellow Bhagwan Lass Rawat fired the said gun by means of his palm fingers.

Then followed the sword manipulation of Prag Dass Purohit and Pankhan Dafedar who played with sword dexteriously to the tune of music, Tabla and Sarangi.

Behari Chaprasi and Mir Nyamat Ulla showed the following performances to the great amusement of the visitors :—

1. A big wooden box well plastered inside with cloth and strongly prepared, was brought forth and the said Behari Chaprasi was seated in it and locked up in double locks while the keys given to others. Then followed cheering of all when the said Chaprasi came out of the box which still remained locked in the same condition.

2. Magic lantern play :—

The pictures were seen living from behind a curtain.

3. Sarkatti-ka-khel.

Head, legs, arms etc were shown living separately.

Then the turn came for the Infantry who desplayed well in bayonet, with sword and bayonet and with lance. The Officers were Subedar Motilal, Jamedar Sheo Singh and Hawaldar Alladin.

Then followed the show of wrestling tournament which was joined by the wrestlers of distant places. Ramlal Singh Chodhari the Malguzar of Bachhone and Madho Lambardar of Bira had brought wrestlers from their respective villages

and it is with great pleasure to n te that these wrestlers mostly withstood and won the foreign wrestlers successfully. All the wrestlers were rewarded as they deserved. Under the guidance of Ghappoo Jamadar and Ilahi Bux the Officers in charge of Silah Khana (Armoury) Chirag Ali and Matru Bazdars showed the game-play of hawks.

The above having ended, a general feast was given by His Highness' sons. Raja Bahadur Sahib Majhley Maha Raj and Sanjhley Maharaj also entertained the officials and people to dinner. Singing and playing was also included in the to the pr gramme.

In full gathering His Highness while delivering a striking speech, spoke of his unflinching loyalty to the British Throne and prayed for Their Majesties long life and victory British Arms.

His Highness who likes but moral instructing Dramas has written 'Ramlila Natak' which was ably played by the pupils of Ajaigarh School under the training of Head Master Mr. K. L. Pathak, B.A. Pt: Sukhdeo Prasad, Pt: Shiva Prasad Tiwary Hindi teacher. Pragdas Misra, Head Master Hindi Music Hall Ajaigarh and Brahmadin, Mahammad.

In comparison with past years, this year fair had had more number of shop keepers and gatherings whose comforts were well looked after by the Police and Tahsil staff concerned. Fuel, grass and earthen pots are given free, and no tax levied in the Fair.

Mannoo Lal Jamadar of Tahsil was ready and steady throughout in his duties in the Fair and arranged well for the comforts of the shop keepers. It goes without saying that Abdul Gafoor, Tailor Master and High Highness bearer proved very expert in showing verstile play.

CHAMBA.

Civil and Military Gazette

At a dinner at the Residency the health of the distinguished guests was proposed in felicitous terms by His Highness the Raja.

After the Durbar at Kangra on the 25th October the next important item in the tour programme of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab was his visit to His Highness the Raja of Chamba's State. The party, consisting of His Honour, Lady O'Dwyer, Miss O'Dwyer, the Hon. Mr. J. P. Thompson, Chief Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel E. C. Bayley, Private Secretary, and Mr. B. H. Crump, C. S. A. D. C., left Shahpur in the Kangra District early in the morning on the 27th October, and, passing by the ruins of Ganeshgarh, a fort dating from the middle of the 16th century, encamped the first day at Siunta. The next day's march, a distance of 16 miles, brought them to Chuari on the foot of the Dhauladhar range of hills. Both at Siunta and at Chuari, where there are Rest Houses, tents had been provided for the accommodation of the State guests in tastefully laid out camping grounds. Leaving Chuari at half past six next morning, the top of the Dhauladhar range, at the Basodhni Pass, was reached by 9 A. M. From this point magnificent views are to be obtained on the south of Siwalik hills and the plains beyond, and on the north of the delectable mountains of Chamba. After a short halt for break fast the party commenced the descent to Chamba. The distance from Chamba to Chuari is only 18 miles, but it includes an ascent of 4,500 feet and a descent of nearly 5,000 feet, and that the journey should have been accomplished in less than six hours, including the halt for breakfast is a very creditable performance. The party was met at the suspension bridge which spans the Ravi river just below the town of Chamba by His Highness the Raja, with whom was the Commissioner of the Lahore Division, as Political Officer, and the principal officials of the State. His Honour was presented by His Highness with the customary tribute of a bow and arrow and a musk pod, and after the usual greetings and introductions the assemblage moved forward Emerging on the Chowgan, as the smooth, grassy common is called of which the town is justly proud, it passed through lines of school boys and townsfolk drawn up on either side, who, cheered His Honour as he passed, and at the gate of the Residency he was received by a guard of honour of the State troops with band in attendance.

The afternoon was devoted to the customary ceremonial visits and the forenoon of the following day to an inspection of the State troops barracks, hospital and State museum. In the evening there was a dinner at

the Residency to which all the European residents of Chamba were invited. His Highness the Raja of Chamba, as is his custom, did not dine at the Residency, but after dinner joined his guests; and after the usual loyal toast, proposed the health of his guests in following words :—

'Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Before proposing the toast of the evening may I be allowed to thank Your Honour and Lady O'Dwyer for the kindness you have done me in paying a visit to my State in fulfilment of a promise of two years ago. I can assure you that it affords us very great pleasure to see in our midst, and I beg to offer you a most hearty welcome. I appreciate your kindness all the more when I think of the long and trying marches that have had to be made and the fatigue that has been under-gone. It is true that the scenery in some measure compensates for the toil—and I hope that Your Honour has seen much to admire on the way—more especially the view from the top of the pass which at this season is one of the finest in our mountains. But even the beautiful scenery is an inadequate compensation for the tediousness of the journey.

"You Honour, on this your first visit to my State, may I be permitted to say a few words about Chamba and its history. Though not so large now as in times gone past, the State still has a superficial area of more than 3,000 square miles; and it possesses every variety of climate from the sub-tropical to the semi-arctic. The scenery everywhere, and more especially in in the Pangi valley, is grand and beautiful. The history of the State goes back to the middle of the sixth century, and is corroborated by ancient records and archæological remains dating from 700 A. D. It is therefore believed to be one of the oldest principalities in India. The original capital was at Brahmaur in the Upper Ravi valley, where our ancestors ruled for 400 years; and the present captial, in which we are now assembled was founded about A, D. 920. Throughout the period of one thousand years which has elapsed since then, Chamba, sheltered by its mountain barriers has maintained its independence, and I trust it will long continue to do so. under the protecting and fostering care of the British Government.

"The past fifty years have seen many changes and great progress in every department of the State. Thanks to the service of the able officers who acted as Superintendents from 1863 to 1885, the administration was placed on a sound basis, and ever since the State has continued to prosper more and more. In a mountainous country like Chamba communications are of the first importance, and these have been greatly improved in recent years. This work is still in progress, and among other projects a new cart and motor road has been aligned from Chamba to Banikhet, on the cart road to Dalhousie, and the alignment has been checked by a Government Engi-

neer. The work is suspended in the meantime owing to uncertainty regarding extensions in British territory. In the capital the introduction of a pipe water supply has been a great boon to the people and the installation of the electric light from water power, in public buildings private houses and the bazar has contributed much to the public convenience and comfort. The State workshops, worked by electric power, have also proved a valuable addition to the equipment of the Public Works Department.

"I do not know if a reference to the Great War is permissible on this occasion, but I may be allowed in a word to express my pleasure and satisfaction that final victory for the Allied arms is now assured. For the speedy termination of this great struggle for freedom and right I am happy to see that my brother Princes in India have given every assistance in their power to Government. My own State also has made its contributions to the common cause, which, though compartively small, offered under a full sense of duty and a deep feeling of loyalty and devotion to the British Crown. I would like to do more up to the full limit of our resources and I beg to place my own services and those of my people at the disposal of Government.

"One favour I ask of Your Honour. To signalise your visit to Chamba I desire to be permitted to place at your disposal a sum of Rs. 5,000 to be expended for war purposes in any way Your Honour and Lady O'Dwyer may think suitable and proper.

"And now it only remains for me to discharge a pleasant duty and I ask you all to join me in drinking to the health of our distinguished guests, Sir Michael and Lady O'Dwyer, with every good wish."

His Honour thanked His Highness, and in turn proposed the latter's health in the following words :—

"Your Higness, Ladies and gentlemen,— I am glad to be able to recall the fact to night that Your Highness was the first of the Ruling Chefs of the Punjab whose acquaintance I had the pleasure of making. That takes you and me a long time back—over 30 years. But on the strength of that old acquaintance, and having heard so much of Chamba and its beautiful surroundings and its model administration, I was naturally anxious when I returned to the Punjab to avail myself as early as possible of Your Highness' kind invitation to visit your state. Various reasons stood in the way during the last two years, and Chamba comes almost last, but certainly not least, in the list of Punjab States which I shall have had the pleasure of visiting.

I am not sure that the delay has not its advantages. One naturally desires to defer the most pleasant experiences to the end, and my wife and, I will count this visit to Chamba among the most enjoyable of our Punjab

tours, both on account of the warmth of our welcome from Your Highness and your people, and, what I personally value, the opportunity this visit has afforded me of seeing for myself the wisdom and efficiency with which the State is being administered under Your Highness' kindly rule.

"There are, indeed, few States in India which can boast of a longer authentic past or an older civilisation, and it is particularly gratifying to see that the rulers of Chamba have taken a pride in its history, and have done, and are doing, so much for the servation of its monuments and its interesing architectural and artistic remain. Chamba as Your Highness has told us, sheltered by its great mountain barrier, has maintained its reputation and independent existence for 1,400 years, and since it came under British protection 70 years ago there are few States which have made such advances in the paths of progress and prosperity. The Sanad of 5th April, 1848, which is the basis of Chamba's relations to the British Government, distinctly states:—'It is not the object of the British Government to take the country into its hands, the only thing it has in view is that from the good management of the country and impartial administration of justice the people should continue to enjoy peace and happiness." And the Sanad concludes by exhorting the ruler 'to exert himself to the utmost to promote the welfare and happiness of his people, to increase the cultivation of the territory, and to administer justice to all.'

"Your Highness, that high trust has well been discharged. You have made a generous but well merited reference to the help received from various British officers who held the post of Superintendent from 1863 to 1885; but the main fact in the successful administration of the State is, and must always be, the devotion of the ruler to the welfare of his people, and Your Highness and your predecessors have been conspicuous by your active adherence to that lofty ideal. The result is a State admirably equipped in all the essentials of administration, and a people prosperous and contented and devoted to their ruler. A State so managed is not only a subject of pride to the Paramount Power; it is also a source of strength. In every crisis, whether in the Mutiny or the Afghan War and particularly in the present struggle, Chamba has given proofs of its loyal devotion to the King-Emperor and his Government.

"Not content with liberal contributions of money amounting to nearly a lakh of rupees to the War Relief Fund, the Prince of Wales Fund and the Aeroplane Fund—which enables one of the units of the Fleet to be named after Chamba—with a gift of valuable horses for remount purposes, and with supporting the families of the brave Gurkhas of the Bakloh garrison that have gone on active service, Your Highness has now made a

generous offer of Rs. 5,000 to be used as Lady O'Dwyer and I think fit in connection with the war. In thanking Your Highness for this I desire also to acknowledge the offer of the services of yourself and your people up to the full limit of your resources. That offer is a genuine and spontaneous one. It is characteristic of the highest traditions of one of the oldest houses of the great Rajput race, and Government will not hesitate to avail themselves of it, should circumstances require.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I know you will wish me to thank His Highness and his officials for all they have done to make our stay in Chamba a pleasant one. His Highness has the happy faculty of making his guests thoroughly at home, and we shall all carry away delightful recollections of his kindly hospitality and of this beautiful place which owes so much to him. I will now ask you to join with me in drinking the health of His Highness, and wishing him and his State an even fuller measure of happiness and prosperity."

The company then proceeded to the Chowgan to view the illuminations. Besides thousands of *charagh* lining the sides of the Chowgan and out-lining the public buildings and steps leading up to the temples above the town, bonfires had been lighted on the tops of all the hills and prominences within several miles of the town, and when the electric lights which light up the Chowgan and the public places were extinguished the effect was most striking. After admiring the illuminations awhile a move was made for the State club, from the upper verandah of which a good view could be obtained of the native dances performed on the sward below by troops of men and women from different parts of the State, each of which has its characteristic style of song and dance.

For the third day a drive was got up for the guests for bear, panther, pig and deer in a jungle some seven miles distant from Chamba. The particular drive can usually be counted on to produce several bears, panthers etc.; but on this occasion, for some unaccountable reason, very little in the way of game came out; and the only bear seen, though wounded by His Honour, got away. A few pigs and deer were bagged, among the latter one shot by Miss Jean Casson.

On the morning of 1st November His Honour and party left for Dalhousie under the usual salute, being accompanied as far as the Ravi Bridge by His Highness of Chamba and State officials. His Honour's stay in Dalhousie was limited to one day, and much to the gratification of His Highness, he accepted the invitation of the latter to be his guest at Jandrighat.

HYDERABAD.

United India and Native States.

The Hyderabad Administration Report for the Fasli 1324 (6th October 1914 to 5th October 1915) has been brought out with commendable promptitude, says a Bombay paper, and we need scarcely remark that it forms a most encouraging record of reforms attempted and progress achieved in the face of obstacles of an uncommon kind. Towards the end of 1914 the Nizam Osman Ali Khan decided to be his own minister and a perusal of the report leaves no room to doubt that His Highness personally looks into the internal working of every Department of the State service. All things considered the report before us contains marked evidence alike of the zeal of the Durbar and their officers to promote the peoples' mental, moral and material welfare, and the responsiveness of His Highness' subjects to the new forces at work throughout the length and breadth of India. The Nizam's officers, European as well as Indian, have deserved well of the people while it is impossible to withhold a tribute of admiration from His Highness for his fervent and lofty devotion to his subjects' welfare and advancement and the uncommon interest he has been known to evince in the details of the administration.

BANSDA.

Indian Patriot.

Baroda, Nov. 9.—"The Chaul Karma ceremony of Kunwari Shree Sushil Kunwarba, the daughter of His Highness Maharaul Shri Indra Sinhjis and that of Kunwari Shree Dhanwant Kunwarba the daughter of H. H's. brother Kumar Shree Pravinsinhji took place jointly on Kartak sud 9, Saturdey the 4th instant. [In connection therewith, three Fulckas or processions were arranged on three successive days—the 2nd, 3rd and 4th instant. The procession started from the Raj Mahal at 7 P. M., every day with full state retinue and returned at about 9. The actual chaul, with due religious rites was done at 8-30 P. M. on the 4th instant and the next morning there was a grand State Durbar in which customary vehewars were presented to His Highness in honor of the auspicious occasion. The Durbar function closed with the distribution of sugar and pan supari. The deputation from Dharampore State graced the occasion with their presence."

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HYDERABAD.

Times of India.

The report on the administration of His Highness the Nizam's Dominions for the year 1324 Fasli, ending the 6th October, 1915, contains many points of interest. It was the first year of the great war, and the dislocation of trade was considerable. Prices of cotton and oil-seeds, the chief exports of the State, fell to a very low level and a large part of the crop remained unsold for a long time. Early in the current year, however, the situation materially improved and all stocks of cotton cleared at good prices. The surplus oil-seeds also were disposed of, though, adds the report, their ultimate fate is rather a mystery. Imports also fell off in sympathy with exports. In consequence there was a decrease of about 18 lakhs of rupees in the customs revenue as compared with the receipts in the previous year. The agricultural season was, however, excellent, and the land revenue more than made up for the loss in customs. Excise also showed a large increase owing to the steady extension of the Madras system in place of that previously in force in Hyderabad. We are glad to learn that it is the intention of His Highness' Government, now that they have secured control of the excise administration by the payment of compensation to Jaghirdars, to raise the duty throughout the State to the same level as in British India. That they are alive to their duty to check the consumption of intoxicating drugs and liquors is evident from the fact that during the past year the duty on *ganga* and *bhang* was raised, as also the duty on liquor in the city of Hyderabad. The report expresses satisfaction at the closure of the opium smoking shops in the district of Bhir, and expresses the hope that all similar shops throughout the Dominions will soon share the same fate. The decline in trade was reflected also in the fall in the railway receipts, though part of the large decrease under this head was due to an arrangement under which the surplus profits of the broad gauge railway were devoted to the improvement of the track and the rolling-stock instead of being divided between Government and the Company. In addition to these indirect effects of the war, the direct contribution of His Highness' Dominions towards the expenses entailed by it are traceable in the large increase of nearly 45 lakhs under Miscellaneous Civil Charges. The cost of the up-keep of the regiment of Imperial Service Cavalry, despatched to Egypt, and the Deccan Horse, which is largely recruited in the State, of which His Highness the Nizam is Honorary Colonel and which had been serving in France, amounting to Rs. 2 lakhs a month is borne by the Hyderabad Government. Except for the temporary fall in trade and revenue receipt under certain heads, the war has had a far less disturbing effect on the State than might have been expected.

Indeed the report records progress in several important directions. Serious crime in the districts was considerably less during the year than it was before the war. The food-grain crops were excellent, and as regards non-food crops the report gives an interesting account of the efforts made to improve the cotton grown in the Dominions with considerable success. Cotton grown in several districts of the State enjoyed some years ago a high reputation for the length of staple, and realised some of the highest prices paid for Indian cotton. But, owing to the introduction of short staple cotton yielding a heavier out turn that the indigenous long staple. Hyderabad cotton lost its reputation in recent years and is now quoted with the lowest varieties. It was classed not long ago as "equal to or better than Broach," but recently the Statistical Department of the Government of India proposed to classify Hyderabad cotton with Oomras, the short staple of Khandesh. The short staple was first introduced in various places with the idea of being mixed with the long staple, but the trick was soon found out and prices fell. The report gives an interesting account of the desperate efforts of districts which had lost their reputation to secure good prices for their cotton by railing it to other places sometimes in a direction opposite to that of the market. But all these devices failed and the reputation of Hyderabad cotton would have been irretrievably injured had not His Highness' Government come to the rescue in time by opening farms for the cultivation of pure long staple and for the prevision of seed. The ryots were at first reluctant to grow the long staple cotton, but they have since seen the advantage of growing it, and the demand for seed is rapidly increasing. Taking the average area under cotton in the Dominions, it is estimated that the ryots will benefit to the extent of a crore of rupees by the re-introduction of the superior indigenous cotton which had all but disappeared from the State in about 10 years. Thus rapidly do inferior crops tend to drive out the superior in countries where the cultivator is not educated enough to understand his true interests. Another satisfactory feature of the year's administration is the effective checking of the denudation of valuable forests that has long been in progress. The immediate result of this is a fall of revenue, but, as the report observes, the revenue derived from this source in past years was in reality a loss of capital and the present reduction in revenue is really the conservation of capital. Notwithstanding a large decrease of revenue under some important heads, and considerable additional expenditure under some, the investments of His Highnesses' Government were raised by over 17 lakhs in the course of the year while nearly half a crore was spent on railway construction out of the year's surplus. We congratulate the Nizam's Government on a year of efficient and able administration.

MYSORE.

Everyman's Review.

Sir M. Visveswarayya enjoys with His Highness the Gaekwar the unique position of being a loadstar in the political firmament of this country Sometimes the British Indian may feel that his brother Indian in the States is not free to join him in the work of India's amelioration. On a closer examination of the facts, we shall be gratified to see that the administration of the Indian States, directed by men of Sir M. Visveswarayya's type. is very inspiring to our cause, and serves perhaps as a practical demonstration of our theoretical "platitudes." The great Dewan of Mysore is untiring in his zeal for the uplift of his province, and for securing a correct perspective of its position in the world's scheme of progress, he always institutes comparisons with the advanced countries outside India. A peep into the affairs of the go-ahead Mysore is sure, therefore, to convince us of the value of the work of the Indian States for the cause of Home Rule for India.

BANSDA.

United India and Native States.

His Highness the Maharajah Gaekwar recently a visit to Kapurthala and on his return journey halted at Jullunder. At this place he visited the famous Kanya Maha Vidyalaya where he was presented with an address of welcome by the students. The Maharajah's reply to the address was characteristic of him as it showed what a profound aud far-seeing statesman he is. Those who are at all conversant with the history of education in Baroda during the past three decades can readily testify that the Maharajah's one ruling passion during this long period has been to remove the factor contributing to ignorance and his declaration was no empty boast. The Gaekwar's advice to his countrymen is eminently worth of his reputation.

KALSIA.

Indian Patriot.

The Council of Regency of the Kalsia State are able to place on record with pride and satisfaction in the administration report for 1915-16 that the long-wished-for event happened—the conferring on the young Prince of the hereditary title of Rajah on the 1st January 1916. "Then,' writes the President of the Council of Regency in his interesting report, "the great gap in the history of the State was filled in, for which we are highly indebted to the Imperial Government." Kalsia with its 176 square miles, its population of over half a lakh and an income of neatly three lakhs is having a very progressive period under the Council of Regency, the Prince being in College, only fourteen years old. "It is very gratifying to note," we read in the administration report, "that by the hearty co-operation and mutual exertions of the members of the council, the administration of the State was conducted in a good and satisfactory manner, which in all respect, won the appreciation of the Political Agent and the satisfaction of the Punjab Government." Among the striking features in the administration of the State is the steady encouragement afforded to the temperance movement. On the occasion of the last cattle-fair held at Chirak, a very successful Pracher (preaching) was made by Master Sant Singh, Honorary Lecturer, Temperance Federation, Amritsar. In the course of his lecture, he explained the benefits of recruiting for the British Army in such an impressive manner that it was highly appreciated by the military pensioners and others present on the occasion. Similarly on the auspicious birthday of the young Raja Sahab, the temperance songs and hymns were beautifully recited by the Temperance Society, Amritsar, headed by its energetic Secretary, Lala Nand Lal. Education is having the most careful attention at the hands of the agency. Strict supervision was observed regarding the discipline and moral tone of the students. To ensure good conduct and to develop a keen sense of competition at studies, the students were awarded a few medals by the State, well-wishers of the institution, and a few gentlemen interested in the work of education. Scholarships were also given to the deserving boys reading in the middle classes. Agriculture and industry are both engaging the most careful attention of the Council. The rearing of silk worms was started with 4 ounces of silk worm seeds; but owing to the negligence of the rearers of the Chachrrauli Tahsil 3 ounces were wasted altogether ; and only one ounce reared in the Bassi Tahsil produced only 16 seers of cocoons valuing Rs. 28. We have quoted this to show under what small beginnings an industry with immense possibilities has been started,

BHOPAL.

Pioneer.

On the eve of her departure from Delhi, Her Highness, the Begam of Bhopal performed, at Mrs. Hailey's desire, the opening ceremony of the Lady Hardinge Parda Garden, a place which Her Highness said would be of great advantage to the ladies of Delhi since it would offer facilities for that social intercourse which is a recognized need of these times. "A pleasant and useful place like this," she said, "will not only charm the eye, but should also benefit the health and spirits of those "parda" ladies whose leisure hours will be spent here.

We all owe a heavy debt of gratitude to Mrs Hailey for her kind thought. This garden is associated with a name which will always be cherished by the women of India with feelings of deep-rooted affection and sincere gratitude. The memory of Lady Hardinge's love for India will always abide with us and no memorial of her sympathy with the land could be better conceived than the Medical College which she strove to establish. It is sometimes forgotten that the advancement of enlightenment and culture in this land, a necessary concomitant of the British rule, has been assisted in no little measure by the sweet sympathy of the wives of the sons of England who have come out as ministering angels to thiscountry.

A notable instance of this sympathy is the work initiated by Lady Dufferin and carried on by successive Vicereines for the relief of sickness and suffering in this country and I have not the shadow of a doubt that all our hopes will be fulfilled, and more than fulfilled, by Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford, of whose keen interest in our welfare I can claim to speak from personal knowledge. It is for us to make good use of the benefits and facilities which these high-minded ladies are unceasingly endeavouring to bring to our doors. It has caused me profound satisfaction to know that the Parda Club of Delhi is conducted on very useful lines and I have no doubt that this "parda" garden will be a most welcome addition to the attractions of this place.

Mrs. Hailey has honoured me by accepting my suggestion that there should be a library of books on matters of health and hygiene attached to this garden and I will make an humble present of a few books on these objects.

Mrs. Hailey, I do hope you will allow me to express to you on behalf of the ladies of this place of our most cordial gratitude to you for the practical work you are doing for our happiness and welfare and that God may bless you in this work and grant you unqualified success is may most earnest prayer."

GONDAL.

Times of India.

The administration report on Gondal State, which has just been issued, gives an interesting insight into the conditions prevailing in Kathiawar in a lead year. During the year H. H. the Thakore Saheb celebrated his 51st birthday and attended demonstrations in his honour at the various towns and villages in the State, and, says the report, "never before does it appear to have "fallen to the lot of a man to have his " birthday celebration extended over a " period of a month and half." What His Highness has done to gain the high esteem and affection of his people may be seen in various parts of the report. He has, for example, spent over 13 lakhs on large irrigation works at Gondal and Paneli since the great famine of 1900 and has found justification for that expenditure in a year when the rainfall was much below the normal and when the out-turn of crops was only ten annas in the rupee, and in some villages as low as four annas. The price of cotton went down, there was a slight reduction in the rate of wages, and the condition of the cultivating classes was on the whole unsatisfactory. The State therefore remitted one fourth of the assessment and taxes, including the customs and octroi, were abolished. The result was that no cultivator had to apply for "tagavi." It is interesting to find in the report a word in favour of the banias. This State, it says, has always been against pressing such rules and regulations as might shake the credit of the cultivators and deter the village Banias from having dealings with them. Experiments tried elsewhere seem to have proved detrimental to the interests of both. The usual rate of interest charged by the Sowkars here, is about one per cent. But there are some cultivators who can actually get loans at 10 or 12 annas interest. This rate cannot be said to be exorbitant.

We presume that the rate of interest quoted is per month, but the report omits to mention the fact. One or two other points in the report may be noticed, one is the excellence fo the hospital at Gondal, an institution in which His Highness, who is a trained doctor, naturally takes much interest. Good progress is also being made in education, and a marked absence of internal disorder in the State does great credit to the administration.

UDAIPOR.

Indian Patriot.

There is a marked and gratifying contrast, and a marked evidence of the desire to elevate them rather than to depress them with the constant sense of subordination. Nowhere would this desire be better appreciated

than in Udaypore, the home of chivalry, and of heroic deeds. The Rana of Udaypore has ever felt proud of his race and ancestry, and has ever resented the slightest infringement of his power and prestige. To him, therefore, the words which Lord Chelmsford spoke should have been gratifying beyond measure. His Excellency has shown both insight and imagination in speaking as he did, and he has undoubtedly created confidence and hope in the mind of his host. Though in rank Udaypore comes next to several States, it ever cherishes its preeminence in historic grandeur. In dealing with such a State, without offending the susceptibilities of its ruler, great delicacy and tact are necessary. Where these lacked, Udaypore has chosen to shrink into isolation rather than to court humiliation in the company of others. Udaypore was unrepresented at the Delhi Durbar. The Rana begged to be excused for the reason, it is stated, that he did not wish to take an inferior place among the Princes. Udaypore has a history more ancient than that of many greater States of the present day. Compared with it, they are of recent origin. The Nizam of Hyderabad and the Gaekwar of Baroda are of the latter description though they have much more extensive territory, much vaster population, much larger revenue; but they have not the length of its history or the grandeur of its traditions.

This natural pride of its rulers has never been allowed to experience any shock. Where such was likely, they have receded in self-effacement. It is impossible not to value the friendship of such a prince, not to retain it by giving him his due, by respecting his dignities and rights.

It is of interest to read that His Highness the Nizam has given a princely donation, but when Mr. Yakub Hussain suggests that His Highness' gift was necessary to raise it to a College, he attempts to praise the Nizam, who does not require his praise at the expense of Vaniambady. If Vaniambady wanted a College, it would have had it.Of course the Nizam's gift is valuable, but more as a moral support from the leader of Islam in India. And Moslem will feel drawn to His Highness for the gift.

RAJPIPLA.

Indian Patriot.

It is a pleasure, indeed, to read of the very strenuous efforts made by Indian Princes to bring forward their States to the level of British India and, as some of us are of opinion, take it even beyond. Of Rajpipla we read the Rajah, who is only twenty-six years of age, has laid down that only children of the soil shall be appointed to positions of trust and responsibility. And the educated subjects of His Highness will love him for this spontaneous show of sympathy and love.

VICEREGAL ENTERTAINMENT AT DELHI.

Pioneer.

During Lord Chelmsford's stay at Delhi at the time of the Conference of Indian Princes, His Excellency gave a series of dinner parties and an evening party.

At a dinner party on Monday, 30th October, the following were present:—His Excellency the Viceroy, Her Excellency the Lady Chelmsford, C. I., the Hon. Joan Thesiger, the Hon. Anne Thesiger, His Highness the Maharaja of Jodhpur, His Highness the Maharaja of Idar, His Highness the Maharaja of Cooch Behar, His Highness the Jam of Nawanagar, His Highness the Raja of Rajpipla, His Highness the Thakur Sahib of Morvi, G.C.I.E., His Highness the Thakur Sahib of Gondal, G.C.I.E., the Hon. Mr. J. B. Wood, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., the Hon. Mr. W. M. Hailey, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., and Mrs. Hailey, Lieutenant-Colonel J. Manners-Smith, V. C., C.V.O., C.I.E., and Miss Manners Smith, Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Windham, C.I.E. and Mrs. Windham, Mr. J. V. S. Wilkinson I.C.S., and members of the staffs of Their Highnesses, of Jodhpur, Cooch Behar, Nawanagar, Rajpipla and Morvi.

At a dinner party on the 31st October, those present included His Excellency the Viceroy, Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford, C. I., the Hon. Jean Thesiger, the Hon. Anne Thesiger; His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda, G. C. S. I., His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., A. D. C., His Highness the Maharaja of Kishangarh, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., His Highness the Maharaja of Alwar, K. C. S. I., K. C. I. E., His Highness the Maharaja of Datia, His Highness the Raja of Dewas (Senior Branch), K. C. S. I., His Highness the Raja Rana of Thalwar, K. C. S. I., His Highness the Raja of Rajgarh, Sir Thomas Holland, K. C. I. E., Brigadier-General, J. L. Rose, Inspector-General, Imperial Service Troops, and Mrs. Rose, Sir Brian Egerton, K.C.I.E. Sadr-ul-Maham, Paigah, Hyderabad State, Mr. R. E. Holland, I.C.S., Captain the Hon. G. Herbert, the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment), and the Lady Muriel Herbert, and members of the staff of Their Highnesses of Baroda, Bikaner, Kishengarh, Alwar, Datia, Dewas (Senior Branch) and Jhalawar.

A dinner party was also held on the 1st November, and there were present:—His Excellency the Viceroy, Her Excellency the Lady Chelmsford, C. I. the Hon. Joan Thesiger, the Hon. Anne Thesiger, Mr. Lionel Curtis, His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior, G.C.S.I., G.C.V.O., A.D.C., His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, G.C.I.E., His Highness the Maharaja Rana of Dholpur, His Highness the Maharaja of Kapur-

thala; G.C.S.I.; His Highness the Nawab of Malerkotla, K.C.S.I., His Highness the Raja of Faridkot; the Maharaj Kumar of Sirohi; the Tikka Sahib of Kapurthala, Brigadier-General the Earl of Radnor, Commanding Dehra Dun Brigade, the Hon. Mr. J. B. Wood, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Mr. R. A. Graham, I. C. S., Resident in Travancore and Cochin State, Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Elliot, Political Agent, Bhawalpur Agency, and Mrs. Elliot, Mr. L. M. Crump, I. C. S., Political Agent, Phulkian State; Mr. H. D. G. Law, I. C. S., Under-Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign Department, and Mrs. Law, Captain the Hon. G. Herbert, the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment) and the Lady Muriel Herbert and members of the Staff of Their Highnesses of Gwalior, Patiala, Dholpur, Kapurthala, Maler Kotla and Faridkot.

H. H. the Raja of Sirmur and a member of his staff attended after dinner.

At the evening party held on the 2nd November at 9-30 P. M., the following Indian Chiefs were present :—

MADRAS.

H. H. the Raja of Cochin, and Rani Sahiba, members of the staff of H. H.

BOMBAY,

H. H. the Pant Sachiv of Bhor, H. H. the Rao of Cutch, H. H. the Thakur Sahib of Gondal, and ladies of his family, H. H. the Maharaja of Idar, H. H. the Maharaja of Kolhapur, H. H. the Thakur Sahib of Morvi, H. H. the Jam of Navanagar, H. H. the Nawab of Palanpur, H. H. the Raja of Rajpipla, members of the staffs of Their Highnesses of Bhor, Cutch, Gondal, Idar, Kolhapur, Morvi, Navanagar, Palanpur, and Rajpipla.

BENGAL.

H. H. the Maharaja of Cooch Behar, and Maharani, members of the staff of H. H.

UNITED PROVINCES

H. H. the Maharaja of Benares, members of the staff of H. H.

PUNJAB.

H. H. the Raja of Faridkot, H. H. the Maharaja of Kapurthala, H. H. the Nawab of Maler Kotla, H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala, H. H. the Raja of Sirmur, members of the staffs of Their Highnesses of Faridkot, Kapurthala, Maler Kotla, Patiala, and Sirmur.

CENTRAL INDIA.

Her Highness the Begum of Bhopal, H. H. the Maharaja of Datia

H. H. the Raja of Dewas (Senior Branch), H. H. the Raja of Dewas (Junior Branch), H. H. the Raja of Dhar, H. H. the Maharaja of Gwalior, H. H. the Raja of Jhabua, H. H, the Rajah of Sitamu, members of the staffs of Their Highnesses of Bhopal, Datia Dewas (Senior Branch), Dewas (Junior Branch), Dhar, Gwalior, Jhabua, Rajgarh, Rawab Sailana, Sitaman, and Khan Bahadur M. Matiuvzzaman Khan, Revenue Minister to H. H. the Begum of Bhopal.

RAJPUTANA.

H. H. the Maharaja of Alwar, H. H. the Maharaja of Bikaner, H. H. the Maharaj Rana of Dholpur, H. H. the Maharaja of Jaipur, H. H. the Maharawal of Jaisalmer, H. H. the Raj Rana of Jhalawar, H. H. the Maharaja of Jodhpur, H. H. the Maharaja of Kishangarh, H. H. the Maharao of Kotah, the Maharaja Kumar of Sirohi, members of the staffs of Their Highnesses of Alwar, Bikaner, Dholpur, Jaipur, Jaisalmer, Jhalwar, Jodhpur, Kishangarh, Kotah and Sirohi.

BARODA.

His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar of Baroda and members of his staff.

KASHMIR.

H. H. the Maharaja of Kashmir, and members of his staff.

The following sons and relations of Indian chiefs were also present:—

Kapurthala.—The Tikka Sahib, Paramjit Singh and the Raj Kumar Amaljit Singh Sahib.

Bikaner.—Maharaj Kumar Sri Sadul Singhji.

Kashmir.—General Raja Hari Singh.

Baroda.—Maharaj Kumar Jaising Rao Gaekwar.

Sirohi—Maharaj Kunwar Sarup Singh.

Limbdi.—Kumar Shri Digvjaysingbji. c/o the Nawab ol Palanpur.

Palanpur.—Lieutenant Nawabzada Taley Muhammad Khan and Sahebzada Yaverhussen Khanji.

Sailana.—Maharaj Kumar Dhalip Singh.

Morvi.—Kumar Shri Lakhdhirji.

Benares.—The Hon. Kunwar Aditya Narayan Singh.

Kolhapur.—The Yuvaraj of Kolhapur, and Raj Kumar Shivaji Rao, Maharaj.

Cooch Behar.—Maharaj Kumar Victor N. Narayan, Sardar Chaanrjit Singh of Kapurthala, Sardar Meharban Ramrao Krishna Vinchurkar, first class Sardar, Deccan.

Coobin.—Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon Appasahib Ghatge of Kolhapuri, Maharaj Kumar Mandata Singh, Appa Sahib of Kagal.

The following were also present :—

Political officers.—Government of India :—The Hon. Mr. J. B. Wood, the Hon. Mr. H. Sharp, Brigadier-General J. L. Rose and Mrs. Rose, Mr. R. E. Holland, Mr. H. D. G. Law and Mrs. Law, Mr. J. V. S. Wilkinson, the Hon. Mr, A. P. Muddiman, Madras—Mr. R.A. Graham, Bombay—Captain A. T. Webb. Punjab—Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Elliot, and Mrs. Elliot, and Mr. L. M. Crump. Hyderabad—Sir Brain Egerton. Central India—Mr. A. C. Lothian. Rajputana.—Lieutenant-Colonel C. J. Windham, and Mr. C. W. Waddington. Kashmir—Lieutenant-Colonel J. Manners-Smith, and Mrs. Manners-Smith. Delhi officials.—The Hon. Mr. W. M. Hailey, and Mrs. Hailey, Lieutenant-Colonel H.C. Beadon and Mrs. Beadon, Mr. C. L. Dundas, Mrs. Dundas, and Miss Stevens, Major M. Corry, I.M.S., and Mrs. Corry, Mr. De Wite Mackenzie. Military officer. —Brigadier-General the Earl of Radnor, Lieutenant-Colonel W.E.A Blakeney, Commanding, 1st Garrison Battalion, the Bed-fordshire Regiment. Lieutenant-Colonel A. Armstrong, Commanding 1st Wiltshire Regiment, Major C, C. Gouldsmith, Commanding 1st Wiltshires Battery, R. F. A., Lieutenant-Colonel D. H. Drake Brookman, Commandant, 39th Garliwal Rifles, and Captain the Hon. G. Herbert, and the Lady Muriel Herbert. Members of the Industrial Commission—Sir Thomas Holland, the Hon. Sir Fazulbhoy Currimbhoy, Sir Dorabji J. Tata, Mr. Edward Hopkins, Mr. Alfred Chatterton, the Hon. Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviyya. Indian gentlemen—Sir Ali Imam, the Hon. Sir Prabhashankar D. Pattani, Mr. M. A. Tana, Dewan of Bhavnagar.

MYSORE.

Everyman's Review.

No month passes away without giving us a clear indication of the vast speed at which progress is being made in Mysore How anxious is the Durbar to forge ahead ! What is even more encouraging is the broad-mindedness of the Maharaja whose decision to permit two sessions of the Representative Assembly has been welcomed not only in Mysore but the whole country, It is a step towards giving self-Government to the Mysoreans and is thus thorougly in keeping with the times welive in.

Indian Patriot.

The announcement is in the Indian Patriot that there is absolutely the foundation for the rumour that Sir M. Visveswarayya is to retire, and that Sir P. Sivaswamy Iyer is to succeed him. I am sorry that Sir P. S. Sivaswamy Iyer's name should have been unnecessarily dragged and criticised; and if I myself said a harsh word, as I fear I did, I apologise. But I heard the rumour in Mylapore circles, and also from a Mysore friend. Mysore will surely be relieved to feel that they can have their Dewan for a longer period—may it be for long—very long.

Indeed it would have been the peculiar misfortune of Mysore if any time-limit should come between the Dewan and his work. A Bombay paper writes:—

The best work of a Dewan of the organising capacity and initiative of Sir M. Visveswarayya cannot possibly be done in five years. It would have been a grievous loss to Mysore had Sir K. Seshadri Iyer had to give way to some aspiring junior at the end of the fifth year of his office. It was not that way that the best work of Sir A. Seshia Sastry, Sir Salar Jung or Sir T. Madhava Rao was accomplished. If a Dewan gives promises of undertaking fruitful reforms, he should be given every facility of putting them through. Under the present system by which a prematurely hustled out of office, one or two likely results might take place. Reforms might be initiated and attempted to be put through in haste. There is no reason why a reforming Dewan of the type of Sir M. Visveswarayya should be asked to retire before his work attains fruition.

BHOPAL.

Pioneer.

A very interesting function recently took place at Delhi, when Her Highness the Begum Sahib of Bhopal formally opened the Lady Hardinge Purdha Garden, which will be a public garden open to all the women of the Imperial city, so that they may have those opportunities of fresh air an exercise which they so urgently require.

HYDERABAD.

Indian Patriot.

Ever since His Highness took charge of the direct administration of the State, every department has been passing under the royal scrutiny. We have heard complaints from officials that there is too much pressure, and in the report there are traces of a vigorous holding of the reins such as Hyderabad has never before witnessed. Judicial, Revenue, Local Self Government Education, Public Works—all come in for searching scrutiny.

In the Report for the preceding year the attention of all judges and judicial officers was drawn to the delay in the disposal of contested cases and to the number of applications for execution which remained undisposed of at the end of the year. Although there has been an improvement in this respect in the High Court itself, the average duration of cases for all the Courts in the Dominions has actually risen during the past year, and attention is again invited to this defect in the administration of justice. It has been notices for two years in succession that out of every nine persons brought before criminal Courts, only one is convicted. As the percentage of convictions in police cases amounts to over 50 per cent, it would appear that the number of false cases instituted on the complaint of private individuals is extremely high. His Highness' judges were desired to offer some opinion on these figures in their annual report, but they have not done so. The matter must be fully considered in the report for the next year.

In the Report of the preceding year certain defects in the local Board system were noticed and proposals are now under the consideration of Government for the grant of greater financial freedom to Local Boards with a view to the encouragement and development of Local Self Government.

The Co-operative movement at present is in its infancy in Hyderabad, but satisfactory progress appears to have been made during the year under review.

There has been a considerable increase in the number of cotton ginning and pressing factories, which has risen from 137 to 162 during the year under review. Five flour mills and three rice mills have been opened in the districts during 1324 F. making a total number of 36 flour mills and 21 rice mills. The new flour mills have been opened at the head quarters. These latter, for the most part, are small made worked by electric power provided by the State installation.

During the year under review, the effect of the war upon trade has been serious. The aggregate value of the trade of the Dominion in 1324 F. was only Rs. 1,727 lakhs as against Rs. 2,615 lakhs in the previous year.

Imports fell from Rs. 1,269 lakhs to Rs. 849 lakhs, and exports from Rs. 1,346 lakhs to Rs. 877 lakhs.

On the whole, the year is one of the worst in the commercial history of Hyderabad, but fortunately there has been a remarkable recovery since the statistics for the year were recorded.

As regards buildings, the programme before the Department is very extensive. In Hyderabad City itself there is hardly a public building which was constructed for the purpose for which it is now used. Many offices are still in rented buildings. In the districts the conditions are far from satisfactory. A good many years must elapse before suitable public buildings can be erected for all purposes. On the whole, the work done in this direction in the year under review can hardly be considered sufficient, and every effort should be made by the Department to deal with the question of buildings as thoroughly as possible.

The gross income of the Postal Department rose from Rs. 4,66,066 to Rs. 5,07,126. At the same time, the expenditure increased from Rs. 4,93,868 to Rs. 5,15,544. The Postal Department does not yet pay its way, but the difference between income and and expenditure is steadily growing less.

Owing to the falling-off in trade, no silver coinage was required during the year under review, but 1,23,32,064 two-pie bronze pieces valued at Rs. 1,28,459 were coined.

The number of educational institutions was raised from 1,094 to 1,169. The new schools were chiefly of the primary grade and included 13 schools for girls and 11 for the depressed classes. The number of pupils rose from 72,582 to 82,962. In all, the percentage of scholars to the population of school-going age was 7·8 per cent. as compared with 7 per cent. in the preceding year,

The backwardness of these Dominions in the matter of education has been frequently noticed in the annual reports, and this is the first year in which real progress, especially in the direction of primary education, is noticeable. "The thanks of His Highness' Government are due to the Director of Public Instruction and his staff for the improvement which has been made and which, it is hoped, will be maintained."

The chapter on medical relief in the State is unique for the steady support given to Unani Medicine.

During the year under report, 11,95,368 patients are said to have been treated in the dispensaries as against 8,94,967 patients in 1323 F. Surgical cases numbered 86,878.

The ordinary service receipts for the year under review amounted to Rs. 6,05,03,335 and the service expenditure to Rs. 5,20,52,781.

Of Hyderabad's help to the Empire in this war, every one knows. Lakhs have been given; lakhs of Government paper have been purchased. Perhaps it may not be generally known that one regiment of Imperial Service Cavalry was despatched to Egypt, where it has been stationed ever since; and the Deccan Horse, of which His Highness is the Honorary Colonel and which is largely recruited in the Dominions, has been serving in France. The cost of the up-keep of these two regiments is borne by His Highness' Government and amounts to Rs. 3 lakhs per mensem, exclusive of the peace pay of the Imperial Service Cavalry. Amongst other measures taken to assist the Imperial Government must be noticed the work of the State workshops which have been practically converted into a shell factory.

BANGANAPALLE.

Indian Patriot.

Banganapalle, Nov. 9.—The Nawab totally refused to leave his subjects and officials and expressed that he was determined to share the fate of others along with them. The water was suddenly found dashing against the rampart walls, bringing down the ditch many bastions. The gravest situation was thus in sight and amidst such a death knell came the news of the receding of the swelling floods.No one believed it, though it was a fact. When the people were assured of the news, greatest ecstacy prevailed and it caused the outburst of tears. The people mustered up courage and began to think of going back to their houses. But where were they? They were reduced to heaps and mounds. The whole town was almost devastated and laid bare of houses. Hundreds of people had to take refuge under the shelter of trees and the available forefronts of the houses that survived. 200 houses can be said to have escaped the disaster, including Fort Khaziwada and other places. The Nawab undertook the feeding of the destitute and went personally, accompained by his brother, Nawab Mir Hussain Ali Khan Bahadur, to inspect the ruined places and to drop kind, sympathetic and encouraging words to all those who needed help. His private purse was not spared and the indigent were helped to avert the panic. The Nawab was always found in tears and expressed that his subjects had to confront the most trying times and that the peace and prosperity brought to his subjects after a strenuous labour of about 8 years have not to be enjoyed by

them. He used to express that it will take 50 years to restore Banganapalli to its normal condition. For sometime some evil eyes were cast upon Banganapalli on account of its progress in all the required directions, and lo! now it is a ruined town not to recover from the calamity for decades to come. The town of Banganapalli and its name would have been a past thing to our contemporaries had not a few of the dashing waves diverted their course towards Kondapet, the other half of the town situated on the other side of the river. This part is on a high level just at the foot of a reef of hills where the people could easily run to secure their safety in case of danger even to this elevated place. This diversion of water swept over three-fourths of Kondapet thus minimising the gravest peril which the capital of Nawab would otherwise have suffered. What is the reason for this unexpected deviation of course? I believe it is due to several water dams put up in the river lately, the obstructions of which ought to have worked out this fatal results to our brethern on the other side of Banganapalli. But this is not to be regretted, as it reduced the havoc of the one part fortunately and brought the other part to share with us in a common lot; thus, generally speaking, it minimised the utter misery of the one at a certain cost of the other. Had nature not taken this course, the Nawab and his officials, and about 3,000 people would have been submerged under water and the name of Banganapalli would have been forgotten for ever. Navapes, a village at a distance of three miles, suffered to some extent.

The number of houses which were levelled to the ground in all the three towns can roughly be estimated at more than twelve hundreds, the cost of which may probably arrive at Rs. 6,00,000, calculating at an average of Rs. 500 per house. Several best and reputed gardens of the well-known Banganapalli mangoes were swept away which would have realised not less than Rs. 30,000 on sale. Several hundreds of domesticated animals of not less a value than Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,000 were lost. Fortunately the loss of life was very small, as only about 16 lives were lost. Stored grains of the value of about 15,000 and apparels, jewels and all accumulated earnings of the sufferers may be calculated at about 12 to 15 lakhs. Nor is this all. The agricultural population lost all their crops and wet lands. All possible steps are being taken by the Nawab and the authorities to afford relief, to improve the condition of the afflicted—grains and labour are being got in from the unaffected villages and it is guarded that the market value of commodities is not raised, as some merchants were found to incline to do it. Police guards have been posted to guard in suitable places and all property is brought to the Chief Police Station and disposed of according to claims. Public buildings, mosques, temples and schools have been thrown open for the accomodation of the panicstricken people. My idea of the rise of water,

of the river is about 22 to 24 feet in height calculated from the lowest bed of the river. There was more than a foot of water in the offices of the Dewan, Tahsildar, Munsiff and Guest House, about 11 feet of water in the hospital and 3 feet of water in the Silk House.

The telegraph line having suffered from floods was suspended for eight days and postal communication for one day. There are no postage stamps, labels or envelopes available in the local Post Office as all the stock at Koilkuntla Treasury seems to have gone wet on account of floods. There being certain breaches between Panyam and Nand-yal, the Station Master of that place which is the nearest railway station to Banganapalle, refused to accept telegrams being too busy or so. We were left thus isolated from the world for a time. These unexpected irregularities simply added to our panic.

There being no habitations to take shelter, many people are sending away their familes to their nearest relatives. Measures are under the consideration of the authorities to make suitable housing arrangements Almost all the people have suffered equally and none thinks of assisting the Durbar in the formation of relief committees, etc. It is the Nawab and the Dewan who are concerned the most. The Dewan who lost all his houses and personal property and who escaped from the floods with a bare shirt and trousers, without shoes in his feet, has forgotton all about his losses. and devotes his time whole-heartedly in affording relief to the sufferers. He has no house to rest and not a single cloth to change dress. He sleeps at night in the Molony Club, holds his office in the Police Station, feeds in a house where there are a dozen families and wears cloths given by others. Such is the fate which has fallen to the lot of the Dewan. So is the case with the Tahsildar, Munsiff, Medical Officers, Chairman and most officials, not to speak of the non-official and nobles.

In consequence of the devastating floods, the drinking water wells have turned saline. The health of the people has been affected with fevers to certain extent. Though hospital buildings, both for in-patients and out-patient suffered very much, the patients are attended to carefully and the medicines are prescribed from the available remnants. Khan Bahadur Doctor Haji Khaja Muhammed Hussain Sahib, the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer, while trying to rescue his zenana, lost his balance and got his right ankle sprained. He is stuck up to bed, but he attends to the poor all the same. Moharram passed all unawares, most of it having been spent in floods and after.

The following appeal is sent for publication :—

The recent floods in the State of Banganapalli in the Kurnool District, have rendered thousands of people homeless and penniless.

The loss of property alone is estimated at more than ten lakhs, while the loss of life is not yet definitely known. A Relief Fund has been opened in aid of the poor and the distressed, and all sympathisers are requested to send their contributions to the Hon'ble Mir Asad Ali Khan Bahadur, Gosha Mahal, Hyderabad."

The six years' hard labour of the Durbar in organizing and evolving a very successful Industrial Department met its fatal blow from the merciless flood. 29 looms with yarn and other requirements given over to private widows and gosha ladies by the Weaving Factory were completely carried away, the Weaving Factory itself coming down in several places and its stores getting damaged. The rolling currents completely annihilated the Silk House carrying away with them valuable microscopes with accessories, furniture, rearing and reeling appliances, certificates and everything. Unless a new building is erected, sericultural operations cannot be carried out. The Ber trees were just inoculated for lac cultivation and the trees containing the brood were uprooted and no trace of them can be had. All labour of several years were undone within twenty and twenty five minutes only. It was only three days previous to the damnable floods two British Forest Range officers were getting training in the Silk House and lac cultivation and such useful institutions are no longer in actual existence to-day. With what amount of expenditure, with what amount of labour, with what length of time and with what enthusiasm and energy have these things been organised! The finances of the State were just flourishing and were at their zenith. They are now to see their nadir. There are only Rs. 84,000 in the treasury and there should be many remissions in the land revenue on account of the severe damages caused to the cultivable lands. With this small capital in hand, the Banganapalle Durbar cannot justly be expected to help the rich and the poor alike. Those that are really needy will receive due attention. Something more will be written from time to time as to the measures of relief which will be adopted. The most noteworthy deed which can be chronicled is the brave and composed attitude of both the Nawab and Dewan and their being in the midst till the unlucky hour was most encouraging to the people.

Indian Patriot.

It is so sad to read that the work of the Industrial Department in Banganapalli has been swept off by the recent floods. My most heartfelt condolence with that sturdy enthusiast, Mr. M. H. P. Ghatalab, who has been devoting himself to the industrial future of the state. That in half an hour one year's work should have been swept away is to be regretted. It is all the more regrettable that poor women who were helped by the state with looms and yarn should find themselves stranded.

SANGLI.

Indian Patriot

. . . . Sangli, in Southern Mahratta country, has its hand full of progressive work; in fact the incessant activity of the Indian State is the brightest feature about them, and Sangli is well up to the front. The work of town extension is progressing satisfactorily, for which thanks are due to the Committee in charge of it. The ground-nut selling and turmeric-cleaning factories, being in the heart of the city, were a source of nuisance to the public and complaints were often heard about it; petitions were sent in, praying for their removal to a distant and more convenient place. With a view to avoid this nuisance, arrangements have been made to remove these factories also to the new site. In the course of the year under report some improvements were made in the administrative machinery of the State. The salaries of some of the officers were raised. The scale of the salaries of the whole of the clerical staff was revised in a manner to make service more attractive to those that are in it already and to outsiders such as University graduates, under-graduates and others. The Huzur office establishment has also been recognised and placed on a sounder basis. A special officer of the grade of a Mamlatdar, has been appointed, as a tentative measure, for the present, for the purpose of carefully looking into and reporting upon the working of some of the Departments of the State that are in need of an impetus and some extra care and attention. The Agricultural and Educational Departments and the Co-operative Credit Societies for instance do not show much satisfactory progress. It may be due either to the ignorance or the apathy of the people or to some other cause. This has to be enquired into and reported upon, which means some extra time and attention but which the Departmental officers cannot, on account of their routine work and other calls on their time, afford to give. This the special officer will have, therefore, to do. He will have to visit different centres and places, talk to the people, find out their difficulties, solve them as far as he can or to report them to the higher authorities. He will have thus to try and find out how improvement can be made more easily and the interests of the people served more effectively than it is possible to achieve under the present circumstances and under the ordinary conditions of the Departments concerned.

It is possible for the Dewan of the State to write that "the general and economic condition of the people in this State in the year under report may be considered to be on the whole satisfactory, after making sufficient allowance for depression in trade and dislocation of business due to the great war that has been going on in Europe for the last two years." Dependent upon agriculture for a large portion of its income, Sangli has been devoting

special attention to its development. An Agricultural Farm, measuring 65 acres, where by way of giving demonstrations of improved methods several experiments are being tried. There is on this farm a large number of cocoa-nut and betel-nut trees, which are kept in a good condition; many new seedlings have also been added to them lately. A piece of land has been set apart for flowering plants. Amongst the principal crops grown in this farm were ground-nut, jowar, gram, tobacco and sugarcane; they were grown in the year under report with the aid of effective fertilisers. Steeping of jowari seed in a solution of copper sulphate before sowing was tried as a remedy against smut, side by side with ordinary seed, with the result that not a single ear-head in the former was affected with smut; similarly wider spacing and frequent interculturing in order to make most of the soil moisture available for the crop was tried with success. Moderate prunning and an application of some nitrogenous manure, such as safflower cake, was tried and found useful in improving the general condition of the mango plants; and as a result of this experiment a bumper crop of mangoes was obtained in the year under report. The Department has also taken in hand the important question of the improvement of stock and fodder. The Sangli State was once famous for its Hanam and Krishna valley bullocks, locally called Sorti. But that breed has now largely degenerated on account of careless mating. With a view, therefore, to revive and improve this breed (Krishna valley) by careful selection and cross-breeding, a separate herd of good cows has been maintained by the State. To this one best Kankrog bull of the pure strain, recently purchased from the Northcot Cattle Farm a Charodi, is added for the purpose and results will be carefully watched and reported upon in due course. Stud bulls will be provided from this herd to Local Boards and private persons for the improvement of local cattle. Experiments on ensilage have been made by this Department from the year 1914.

The reforms that we generally associate with new agriculture, are all introduced; loans, implements and demonstration farms. Serious attention, however, is continued to be given to trade and manufacture, which, combined with a rapidly educated people, are the only hope for a great future. Sangli has a flourishing trade in jaggery, turmeric, ghee, tobacco, cotton and chillies. The improvement in the local trade is principally due to the opening of the Sangli State Railway, erection of godowns for wholesale traffic and the other facilities which the traders enjoy. Sangli is noted for its copper and brass pots; it is also known for ornaments and other articles of gold, silver and steel. Shahapur and Rabkavi had long since been known for the fast colour of their cotton and silk goods. These colours have been, however, giving way before cheap ones. The traders have, however, latterly begun to realise the great injury, these new colours are doing to the good name of the place

They, therefore, feel the necessity of doing something to improve the colours in point of durability and they have been making endeavours to retrieve the lost ground in point of their credit. No wonder, then, that education in Sangli is engaging the most serious attention of the Government. Schools are rapidly rising in number; large expenditure is being met.

The financial position of the State is very satisfactory. The gross revenue of the State, exclusive of Inam adjustments, in the year under report amounted to Rs. 10,86,403, which shows an increase of Rs. 22,000 over that of the last year which amounted to Rs. 10,64,054. The year under report opened with a cash balance of Rs. 13,07,406; brought in Rs. 23,85,898 making a total to Rs. 36,93,304; the expenditure amounted to Rs. 22,44,910, leaving a balance of Rs. 14,48,394 at the end of the year under report. With a treasury that is full, and the spirit for advancing the prosperity of the people, and with a young Ruler who throws himself into every detail of administration, Sangli has an excellent future before it.

MYSORE.

New India.

With a view to enable the public to obtain a connected account of the measures and policy of the Government, it is proposed to issue a quarterly publication known as the Mysore Blue Book Journal, consisting of 4 parts. The first part will consist of a summary of important orders, issued by the Government with such references, as may be necessary, for the proper understanding of the previous history of the subject and the circumstances, which led up to the orders. Part II will contain a list of books and other publications, issued by Government Departments and available for sale with a brief notice of their contents. Part III will contain extracts likely to be of special interest to officers from the publications of other Governments and from newspapers and journals. Part IV will contain notes, correspondence, suggestions, etc., on the conduct of official work and on administrative questions generally.

The contents of the first two parts will be similar to those of the Bombay Blue Book Quarterly, the publication of which has suggested the present idea. Parts III and IV form a new feature, and are intended for the use of officials: Part IV may not be issued regularly. The conduct of the Journal will be entrusted to a Committee composed of the Secretaries to Government in the different departments and the Editor of the *Mysore Economic Journal.* Mr. N. Madhava Rao, Assistant Secretary to Government will act as Secretary of the Committee. The subscription of the Journal is rupee one per annum.

THE SHAN STATES.

Empire.

The report on the administration of the Shan and Karenni States for the year ending June last says :—

The war produced no political consequences in the Southern Shan States. The chiefs are confident of victory and their only surprise is that the enemy have been able to resist for so long. Special prayers for the speedy success of our arms were a feature of the annual religious festivals, and the "Sawb wa" of Yawnghwe attended in state a commemoration service for Lord Kitchener. Some chiefs have again subscribed independently to various war funds, but the general wish is to do something as a body to help the Empire. Suggestions with this object are under consideration. The economic conditions caused by the war are reflected in the fall of both imports and exports from Burma. There was a further large reduction in the number of cattle sent down to the plains, and a rise in the price of goods brought up. Against this must be set off the unusually profitable trade in potatoes, which was largely due to the war. The Southern Shan States railway has celebrated its first anniversary, and has been a boon to trade and a stimulus to cultivation. The terminus, Aungban, is developing into a thriving town. Good progress has been made in the laying-out of Kalaw and its equipment as a hill station. European house sites, with a full complement of roads, have been demarcated over an area of 1½ square miles ; leases have been issued, and houses are beginning to spring up, though many people delay building till after the war. Pipe water has reached the town, and the distribution scheme will be completed shortly. A golf course is under construction.

A rising took place in February against the 'Myosa' of Mong Hsu and his son the 'Kemmong.' This was the serious breach of the peace. The movement was directed against the 'Myosa' and his son personally, and had no political significance. Mr. Gahan, the Assistant Superintendent, was fortunately not far away, and on the news reaching him, he at once collected armed men and pushed rapidly to Mong Hsu. The neighbouring chiefs sent contingents to his assistance with commendable promptitude. The rebels immediately dispersed, and the arrival of Military Police from Loilem and the Northern Shan States quickly restored order. Five of the leaders in the rebellion were sentenced to imprisonment, men convicted of looting were punished by fine, and the widow of the late Chief—the lady known as the "Medaw"—who was a prime mover in the affair, was deported to Taunggyi.

All States incurred expense in keeping watch on important roads and ferries, and generally in guarding against the entry of seditious and evilly-disposed persons.

The British side of the border has been entirely peaceful. Owing to requisitions by the Chinese authorities for transport for military operations, an unusually large number of mule-owners came to Kengtung State. This caused some apprehension for a short time, but the men proved to be ordinary traders, and they went home peacefully. Two Kengtung men who had gone to the Hsip Hsawng Panna to sell cattle were murdered and robbed on their way back. A representation was made to the Chinese official at Keng Hung, without result. Such troops as there were in Hsip Hsawng Panna were withdrawn to the French-Chinese frontier while the operations referred to below were in progress. Nevertheless the Chinese-Shan border states remained quiet, though two big dacoities, committed by Chinese, caused some alarm. The "Myosa" of Mong Long, who fled last year returned to his charge and seems to have regained his authority. In Mong Lem and in the Chenpien region the opium crop was destroyed with some thoroughness. This feature of Yuan-Shi-Kai's "regime" is highly resented and disposed the people to welcome any change. Otherwise they were indifferent to the happenings at Peking and even in Yunnan. The French have had a troubled year, and the Laos provinces has been under martial law. In August the Hpaya (Chief) of Mong Mong, a district on the Mekong openly rebelled. The "Commissair" at Mong Hsing with two French officers and a force of "milicieus" and local levies marched against him in October. After burning several villages they returned—the "Hpaya" and his men having disappeared in the jungle. Later, a French Inspector was shot near Ban Hyuei Sai, and the post office at Mong Long Pukka was destroyed. In January another column was despatched against Mong Mong consisting of 120 "milicieus" under Inspector Tournay and two other French officers, with some local levies, Sao Tu Wi, and "Hpaya" Sali Hsawng Mong (leaders in the movement) were killed and many of the rebels made their submission. The chief however escaped, with a few followers, and is reported to have found refuge in the Hsip Hsawng Panna. The revolt is considered to have ended in February and the column left Mong Mong in March. On both occasions Mr. Gross, Assistant Superintendent, Kengtung, moved down to the Mekong, and gave the French officers every assistance in his power. In the cold weather eight companies of French troops carried out a drive from Mong Sai and Mong Son to the French-Chinese frontier. The object was to clear the country of brigands to avenge the death of M. Lambert (referred to in last year's report), and to re-occupy Mong U. The operations were successful and Mong U was re-occupied in December. M.

Lapeyronie remained in charge as "Commissaire" of the Laos province throughout the year and has now assistants at Ban Houei Sai and at Mong Hsing. Both these posts have been strengthened. It is reported that a minor official named Sao Hpe has been put in charge of Mong Hsing State. The appointment is not popular. The ex-"Myosa" spent the year between Mong La and Keng Hung. Applications for his extradition were not complied with by the Chinese authorities. The Siamese border has been peaceful, and the only event of interest was the arrest and deportation of certain undesirable persons. There has been some immigration from Siam into adjacent Shan districts, possibly to escape military service, for the people seem to save again after a year or two.

COCHIN.

Indian Patriot.

The 3rd November was the last day of the Princes' Conference and His Highness accompanied by the Dewan, consort and son attended the same from 11 A.M., to 1 P.M., and again from 3 P.M., to 5 P.M. A group photo of all the princes and princesses were also taken; their Highnesses took leave of His Excellency and the Conference was closed for the year at 5-30 P.M.

At 9 A.M., on the 4th His Highness and party accompanied by the Dewan and Sarwdhikarikar visited the Kutab Minor, 11 masile from Delhi and also the Ruins of Old Delhi. The boundary of the old Ruined City of Delhi was shown to His Highness from the Kutab Minor, the famous masonary pillar 329 feet high constructed about 4 centuries ago. On the way Humayun's tomb was also visited.

After visiting all the important places monuments and old relics at Delhi His Highness and party took rest for a day and started to Agra on the 6th at 1-30 P.M., the next halting place.

At 1 P.M., on the 6th His Highness and party motored to the Delhi Railway Station which was neatly decorated and the platform very crowded with the British officials and the Delhi public. His Highness took leave of them and the special left at 1-30 P.M.

The Agra Cantonment station was seen at 6-15 P.M. and His Highness and party special reached the station platform at 6-20 P.M. which was also crowded with spectators. His Highness and party motored to the palace of the Maharajah Scindia of Gwalior which was arranged for His Highness' stay, about 2 miles distant.

On the 7th November His Highness and party accompanied by the Dewan visited the Taj Mahal, the marvellous creation of the Mogul art. The whole structure with the Gothic cathedral with the sculptured arches and its spices pointing heavenwards has a wonderful attacked to it, with its garden planted with the flowers and shrubs, and the solemn cypress, the semblem of life and ternity. The two tombs of Shah Jehan and his belovep wife are centred in the Caoo below. The inlaid work in the whole retucture built of pure marble is simply grands.

His Highness and party visited the Taj Mahal on three different times of the day. the morning, the evening and also at 10 P. M., to enjoy the real artistic beauty of the grand structure.

On the 8th His Highness and party accompanied by the Dewan and Sannadhis visited the next important relic at Sikandra Akbar's tomb at 9 A. M., and 11 A. M., in a village about miles from Agra. 5 Archaeological interest were also examined on the way. The plea of the structure was observed to be different in style from any other Mogul movement being distinctly Hindu in character. The whole struc ture is typical of Akbar and his work both in its greatness and in its incompleteness.

In the evening His Highness and party walked through the Botanical gardens by the side of the place and inspected the different varieties of the plants there and returned at 7 P. M.

On the 9th His Highness and party visited the fort buildings between 8 to 12 A M, and His Highness highly appreciated the structure designs of the olden days. The court hall, the Dawanikas, the Dawaniam and other parts of the palace were also visited and the party returned home at 12 A. M.

The inspection and visit to these buildings and structures of the olden days carried with him high admiration for the Indian art in bygone days.

At 8 P. M., His Highness and party accompanied by the Dewan and Sarwadhi motored to the Agra Railway Station which was again crowded with spectators when His Highness special was steamed ready for starting. His Highness took leave of the hosts and the special left at 8-5 P. M., for Allahabad.

At 6 15 A. M, on the 10th the special reached the Allahabad Railway Station. Though the visit to this place was at first meant to be of a purely religious character, His Highness had the opportunity to visit some of the industrial work shops also. Such as the sugar and the glass works industries.

As soon as His Highness and party reached the the palace of the Maharaja of Benares, the place arranged for His Highness to stay on the

banks of the River Jumna about 2 miles from the station, they started for the river bath at the junction of the 3 sacred rivers the Jumna, the Ganges and the Saraswati at about 7 A.M. A special boat was arranged for this ceremony and His Highness could take his bath in this boat itself. Nearly 4 hours were spent in performing the religious ceremonies at the Ganges and after this His Highness returned to the palace at 2.30 P. M. At the religious functions were gone through satisfactorily, and money and clothes were freely distributed to Sanyasis, Yogis and specially to the poor.

At 9 A. M, on the 11th His Highness and party accompanied by the Dewan motored to visit the Glass factory as previously arranged; Manager was ready at the gate to receive His Highness. After garlanding His Highness and party they were shown round the whole working of this industry and every detail which His Highness was curious to know was well explained by the Manager. The detailed working and the economical condition of the institutions were inquired into and noted. Different specimens made at the factories were presented to His Highness and after the usual ceremonies the distribution of fruits and pansupari. Highness took leave of them at 11 A.M., wishing the owners every success in their new path.

On the way the sugar factory was also visited. The different processes of melting jaggery, filtering and purifying the same, drying and washing etc., were shown and His Highness highly paid the enterprising spirit of the people of Allahabad. The whole factory at work was seen and examined and His Highness and party returned home at 12 noon.

In the evening His Highness performed his religious ceremonies on the river of Jumna and both returned for night.

At 1 P.M. His Highness and party visited the Newing Agricultura College at which several machines for agricultural purposes were shown worked to His Highness. The silo and silage or the method of protecting India's cattle from starvation was also well explained by the American professor of the College. The silo in structure, is somewhat like an Indian well about 15 feet in diameter and 20 feet deep having airtight and moisture proof walls, in which any forage crop is stored and preserved indefinitely. After inspecting the dairy farm His Highness returned home at 6.30 P. M.

His Highness on the 12th November again went to the Manikarikar ghaut for bath at 7 A. M. This day clothes were again freely distributed to all the poor people present and returned home at 10 A. M.

The highly charitable trend of mind of the Royal family of Cochin was well appreciated by the whole town of Allahabad and it is said that the people will never forget the smiling face of His Highness as long as Allahabad lasts.

His Highness and party started to enares at 1 P. M. on November 12th and reached it at 4-30 P. M.

GONDAL.

Indian Patriot.

We have never read the report of the administration of a Native State which is only the record of the daily life and activity of the Ruler; the Gondal report is only that. How love for the subjects and constant work and watchfulness for them can gain for the ruler the whole hearted attachment of the people is well illustrated in Gondal In the rank of Indian States, Gondal has a pre-eminent place. Although its area is only 1024 square miles, population over a lakh and a half and income about fifteen lakhs, the personality of the ruler has given to it a place equal, if not superior, to that of States with larger area and population. Who has not heard of His Highness the Rajah of Gondal? His Highness Thakore Saheb Shri Bhagvat Sinhjee, G.C.I.E., Jadeja Rajput, received his education in the Rajkumar College and studied at the University of Edinburgh, where he took the degree of M.D. and LL.D. He is also F.R.C.P. and F.R.S (Edinburgh). D.C.L. (Oxford) and a fellow of the Bombay University. Himself a scholar and author he takes a great interest in education and has built a large College on the boarding school system, for the education of the sons of Grassias or land-holders. He has established the first Girls' High School in the Province of Kathiawar and was the first to start a Travelling Dispensary and an Asylum for the maintenance of the poor who are unable to earn their own living. The State "on account of its importance and advanced administration" was raised from 2nd to 1st Class in 1887. The Chief who holds a sanad of adoption was appointed K.C.I.E in the same year and G.I.E. in 1897. His Highness has made the State practically free from taxation, customs and octroi duties, some 49 taxes having been abolished during his regime. The subjects in appreciation of his just and beneficent rule voted him a colossal bronze statue in 1891—an honour without a parallel in the history of Kathiawar. It was unveiled by His Highness Maharaja Shri Sayaji Rao, G.C.S.I. Gaekwar of Baroda. All subjects of the Gondal State celebrated the Silver Jubilee in commemoration of the completion of twenty-five year's rule of the Chief on 25th October 1909 and raised subscriptions for erecting the Bhagvat Sinhjee Silver Jubilee Institute at Gondal. He enjoys a salute of 11 guns and is entitled to be received and visited by the Viceroy and the Governor of Bombay. The auspicious event of the completion of fifty years by His Highness was celebrated last year throughout the State with unbounded enthusiasm and loyalty.

No wonder that such a Ruler has been the idol of the people. Speaking of His Highness, His Excellency Lord Willingdon said: "In the matter of education and social advancement of every type I may safely say that His Highness the Thakore Saheb of Gondal has been one of the pio-

neers. Now, the lot of a pioneer of progress is not always a happy one Many difficulties strew his path and especially is this the case in India where so many prejudices and customs have to be conquered before any advance can be made. But I do think that the efforts made by His Highness to overcome those prejudices have not only been great, but extremely successful, and he is greatly to be congratulated upon all that he has done to help forward the peoples of India and I send s the sincere thanks both of the Government of India and of the Governor of Bombay." Of every institution in Gondal, it has been said that it is the best of its kind. The Gondal Grasia College has drawn forth the admiration of Governors; the Gondal girl school is a model for all India. In 1900 there was a famine, where the people suffered. His Highness made up his mind that there shall be no such suffering in famine time. The result? Nearly thirteen and a half lakhs have been spent upon irrigation since the famine. The four municipalities in Gondal are highly efficient. Himself a doctor, medical relief in Gondal is in an advanced state of perfection, under the direct supervision of His Highness. Of the Gondal The people we happy and contented. Hospital I.M S. doctors in India have been speaking almost with a touch of envy. The European war and the scanty rainfall contributed to a rice in the prices of all necessaries os life. There was a slight reduction in the rate of wages owing to insufficient rainfall. The State has always been against passing such rules and regulations as might shake the credit of the cultivators and deter the village Banias from having dealings with them. Experiments tried elsewhere seem to have proved detrimental to the interests of both. The usual rate of interest charged by the Sowkars here is about one per cent. But there are some cultivators who can actually get loans at 10 or 12 annas interest. This rate cannot be said to be exhorbitant. The policy of non-interference with such transactions, timely and liberal suspensions and remissions of the Vighoti granted by His Highness during years of famine and drought and the abolition of taxes including the customs and octroi have had their desire effect. In the economical development of the country the cattle play an important part. With a view to encourage their breed His Highness has in his usual liberal spirit abolished the pasturage fees in the whole State.

Around this ruling princes clusters the entire nerves of the administration; hence the passionate love of the people to their Ruler which spontaneously showed itself in the celebration of the fifty first birthday of His Highness. We wish the full report were in the hands of every prince in India just to know what it is to be loved by the people. The Gondal administration report devotes nearly two hundred pages to the description of the events of the birthday—addresses, drama, recitation, everything that the people felt impelled do. It was an expression of the affectionate regard,

unswerving loyalty and unbounded esteem which the people of Gondal feel for their ruler. The Silver Jubilee celebrations of 1909 were concentrated at the capital, whereas these took place in the presence of His Highness at various towns and villages, to which he was invited. The presence of His Highness, the Rani Saheb and the Princesses in their midst stirred the hearts of the villagers. The towns and villages wore a gala day appearance for several days though the months of October, November and December, The streets were decorated with arches, flags, bunting and evergreens. Garden parties, torch-light processions, children's fetes,fairs, prize distributions opening of new institutions followed in succession Pupils and masters in State Schools co-operated cheerfully in the distribution of prizes, processions, recitations of valedictory poems, speeches etc. They were the recipients of donations contributed by His Highness, Her Highness the Rani Saheb and the Hindu and Mahomedan communities. His Highness gave books of the value of Rs. 6,000 to all the pupils studying in State schools,- and Her Highness Rs. 2,000 to schools in the Dhoraji division. Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Bhavnagar contributed Rs. 500 to the foundation of a prize in the Art School at Gondal.

Patrika.

In order to commemorate the anniversary of the birthday of the Gondal Maharaja H.H. Sir Bhagwat Singh Bahadur G.C.I.E., M.D. on the 24th October 1916, the title of Raj Vaidya (i. e. chief's physician) was conferred on physician Jivram Kalidas proprietor of the Gondal Rasashala Dispensary. A large meeting was held under the presidency of Mr. Pranshanker Mr. Pranshanker B. Joshi on behalf of Hindu and Mahomedan citizens of Gondal and his friends on 5-11-16 in order to congratulate physician Jivram. The citizens who attended it exceeded 1500. Mr. Joshi highly praised the proficience of physician Jivram Kalidas in Ayurveda and said that the medicines of his Rasashala dispensary were being sent largely throughout the whole of India, Africa, America Europe and Japan and other distant countries and that 52000 men benefited by it in this year only. The pharmacy (or dispensary) carried on a trade of Rs. 45,000.

Mr. Ambaram Jain Mr. Shivshanker physician Mr. Chandulal B. Patent Mr. Popatial Pleader and other gentlemen made congratulatory speeches suitable to the occasion. Physician Jivram Kalidas thanked all and made a lengthy speech about the greatness of the Ayurveda. He dwelt on the history of the Ayurveda, the exponents of it and the authors of the Samhitas, operation or surgery, chemistry, sanitary science, bodies and other subjects and he persuaded them that the present time was convenient for chiefs and subjects to encourage the Ayurveda. He finally stated that the honour conferred on him by H. H. had been given to Ayurvedic Medical men and Ayurveda only and thanked His Highness and the subjects.

VICEROY AT AJMERE.

Madras Mail.

Viceroy's Camp, Ajmere, Nov. 17—The following is H. E. the Viceroy's reply to the Istimrardar's of Ajmere:—It gives me great pleasure on this my first visit to Ajmere, to make the acquaintance of the Tazimi Istimrardars, with whose past history and present condition I have been made acquainted by Sir E. Colvin and, in whose welfare, I take close and a friendly interest. From the time nearly 100 years ago, when your ancient estates and baronies passed under the direct control of the East India Company, your interests have been the constant care of the British authorities and I think I am right in saying that while the connection has been a source of strength to the Government, you on your part have had no reason to complain of neglect or want of liberality. I earnestly trust that these happy relations will remain always undisturbed. I regret to learn that since my predecessor Lord Hardinge visited Ajmere four years ago, five of your number have passed away. One of these Rao Bahadur Thakur Gaj Singh of Randanwara, who died this year in the full vigour of his manhood, was especially commended by Lord Hardinge for the careful and successful administration of his estate. I trust that his son and successor, whom I am glad to meet here to-day, will follow in his father's footsteps. I trust too that the successors to the estates of Bhinaisawar, Mehrun, Kalan and Pisangam whose presence is also welcomed, will realise the responsibilities attaching to their high position. Of the reason for the absence of the Thakur of Kharwa this is hardly the occasion to speak. You will, I feel sure, share my regret that he should, by his conduct, have cast a slur on the good name of his family and of his fellow Istimrardars. I have heard, with much pleasure, of the liberal contribution made by the Talmil Istimardars to the Ajmer Aeroplane Fund—contributions which are all the more appreciated for the fact that recent season have been unfavourable. I thank you for your generosity which will help towards the speedy victory of the great Empire to which you belong. I am glad to learn from Sir E. Colvin that free use has been made on the Ajmer Talukdars, Loan Regulation of 1911 which was framed in order to help the Istimrardar of Ajmer to pay off the burden of debts which has for many years oppressed them. You will realise that, if full benefit is to be derived from this measure, it is necessary that, when a loan is taken, the instalments should beduly and punctually repaid an dI trust that in this matter I may count on your true appreciation of your own interests. With these few words I wish you godspeed and trust that the coming years may bring to you all renewed prosperity and happiness.

Viceroy's Camp, Ajmere, Nov. 18.—H. E. the Viceroy's delivered the following speech at the Mayo College prize distribution to-day:—

I am using no conventional phrase when I say that it is a very real pleasure to me to be here to-day and distribute the prizes. In the first place, I am able to meet Mr. Waddington on the scene of his successful and distinguished labours. It is close on 30 years since I first met Mr. Weddington and no University man ever quite loses the feeling which he entertains as a freshman for the senior man who is also a distinguished University athlete. I met Mr. Waddington first under these conditions and in my mind's eye I can still see him playing Association football for Oxford and dribbling the ball down the field, but Mr. Wadding: is also impressed on my mind as a man who has done a remarkable piece of work in the educational sphere, and it is impossible to over-estimate the influence which he has exercised through his quiet but forceful personality on the generations of princely and noble houses, who have passed through his hands, and I am sure that the Princess and Chiefs who first made their plunge into life at the Mayo College will ever hold in grateful rememberance the name of Mr. C. W. Waddington. But it is not only a pleasure to greet an old Oxford man under such happy auspices, it is a pleasure to visit a College with such fine traditions as a College. You have had a short history, but the sihtory of the Rajputs, no s-than of the Mahomedans and Mahrattas, is of centuries and there is probably many a boy here, who, if he told of the deeds of his ancestors, could tell tales which would thrill the emotions and make the heart beat quicker. What a foundation on which to build a heritage of noble chivalry, a tradition of knightly courtesy, an inspiration for all time to come. And do not two things follow on this? First, that for you, boys, a standard has been set up to which you must aspire and below which you can only fall to the detriment of your good name; secondly, that it is for your fathers to see to it that they continue so to support this College, that it shall be the nursing mother of still more famous children, who will be proud of their traditions and have left in this place all that the phrase "noblesse oblige" connotes. Holding these views then, of what your College can mean, do you wonder that I say it is a very real pleasure for me to visit you this afternoon? But let me go to other things, other matters. While your forefathers rode rejoicing to the stricken field as to some joyous joust, your duty for the most part will lie in more peaceful spheres. It is true that for us to-day the opportunity of soldierly service has come and we have seen that Rajput Paladin Maharaja Sir Pertab Singh go off to the war like one of his forebears, only asking that Fate should grant him the joy of leading his men in a charge against the foe. There are others too from among the ranks of your old boys. The Maharaja of Bikanir responded to the call, but on his return both Lord Hardinge and I have thought that he could do more important service here in India. He will remember Miton's line "They also serve who only stand and wait." The Maharaja of Jodhpur, the

Maharaja of Idar, and the Rana of Barwani, to mention only a few, also placed their swords at the disposal of their Emperor, but we believe and hope that such service will be the exception and not the rule and that when this war comes to an end, the task that will lie before each one of you will be the peaceful one of living in your own land and of looking after your own people. But "peace hath her victories no less renowned than war" and let none of you think that the task of developing your country and making your people happy is one beneath you. Some of you will have great opportunities, some smaller, but to all of you alike comes the call of service. Lord Brougham, a Lord Chancellor of England, once said of the Duke of Wellington that man would pick up space and pick and use them if he thought he could best serve his country in that way and so with you, when you go out from this place I hope you will place this ideal of "service" first among your ideals. After all "ich dien" (I serve) is the proud motto of our Prince of Wales and now I want to congratulate one who was lately one of yourselves. He comes of a great stock, but he has regarded that fact rather as an incentive to work, than as a justification for sloth. I refer to Maharaj Kumar Himmat Singh of Idar. As you have heard, he has achieved the best result obtained by any boy since the examination for the higher diploma was started. I offer him my warmest congratulations and I shall watch and as I am sure, we all shall, with the keenest interest, his future career.

One more word and I have done. The scheme of your founder connotes very high ideals. Birth has given you much. The Mayo College has given you much. Now it is for you to repay your debt by service. It will not be necessary for you to look for opportunities like Knights of Old to go out and seek far some Dragon to slay. Be sure the opportunity will come in the every-day discharge of our duties. There is a motto of one of your states "Yato Dharmastat Jayas" (where virtue is there also is victory). Show by your service that is as equally true to-day as in the ages of long ago, when it inspired your fathers of old.

JAIPUR.

Indian Patriot.

His Excellency the Viceroy, addressing His Highness the Maharajah of Jaipur, said:—"Your Highness is, I am aware, strongly conservative in your ideas as is not unnatural in one of the oldest rulers in Rajputana, although ready to adopt new ways when such appear to be for the public advantage, you are naturally slow to make a change merely for change's sake when no material benefit appears to you likely to follow. I fully understand your Highness' attitude, but I am at the same time confident that, should need arise for reform in any direction, your sense of public duty will prompt you to do what is best for your people and for the Empire at large." Conservative His Highness may be, but with long lines of railway and electric light on the roads, and an administration full of efficiency, surely there is no conservatism anywhere.

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KAPURTHALA.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT.

The Administration Report of the Kapurthala State for the year 1915-1916 contains the following particulars of His Highness' tour.

As was recorded in last year's report His Highness the Maharaja, accompanied by a small party, set out on the 2nd of March 1915 on a prolonged trip to Europe and America. Leaving Bombay per s. s. "Caledonia" His Highness landed at Port Said and proceeded inland to Cairo where during his brief sojourn he had the pleasure of meeting the British High Commissioner, Col. Sir Henry Macmahon, a former distinguished Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

While in Egypt he had the rare opportunity of seeing a number of British Indian and Imperial Service regiments guarding that great international artery of human traffic and commerce, the Suez Canal, and witnessing at close quarters that gigantic military concentration which represented the flower of the fighting stock of diverse important parts of the empire. From Egypt His Highness repaired to Paris and thence moved on to Spain in which country he spent about 3 weeks visiting Madrid, Seville and Ronda.

Towards the end of April the party (recently augmented by the addition of His Highness's fourth son, Kanwar Karamjit Singh) sailed from Gibralter by the French liner s.s. "Patria" for a tour in the New World.

His Highness's peregrinations in the United States extended over four months and included visits to New York, Washington, Chicago, Denver, Colorado Springs, the Grand Canyon, the Great Panama Pacific International exposition at San Francisco, the smaller exposition at San Francisco, the smaller exposition and Santiago, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Delmonte.

From San Francisco the Maharaja proceeded to Salt Lake city and subsequently, rambling through the enchanting scenes of the wonderful Yellow Stone Park, crossed the frontier into Canada. His stay in the great dominion lasted 4 weeks, in the course of which he undertook excursions to the world famous rocky mountains, Winnipeg, Toronto, Niagara Falls, Montreal and Quebec. A flyting visit was paid to Ottawa where that charming royal couple, Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, received and entertained His Highness to lunch.

On the 24th of August the party embarked at New York on the Dutch liner Rotterdam bound for Falmouth, and, despite the German submarines whose unscrupulous activities spare no vessels, neutral or otherwise, reached London safely in the beginning of September. During his 6 weeks' sojourn in the Metropolis His Highness exchanged visits with Mr. Chamberlain, the Secretary of State for India, and was accorded the privilege of being received in private audience by Their Majesties the King-Emperor and Queen-Empress. At the termination of a cordial conversation the King-Emperor signified his high appreciation of the ungrudging assistance the Maharaja was rendering in connection with the great war.

His Highness also visited the hospitals for the Indian wounded at Brighton and dispensed hospitality to a number of officers at the Savoy Hotel.

From London His Highness crossed over to Paris where he spent the months of October and November. About the middle of the latter month by the courtesy of the French Military authorities the Maharaja was able to fulfil his eager desire to visit a portion of the historic front which has been immortalized by the titanic conflict into which mankind has been hurled headlong by the wanton aggressiveness of the Teutonic powers. His Highness proceeded to Reims where

he was received by the General in Command of the French fifth army who kindly deputed one of his Aides-de-Camp to ciecerone His Highness to the points of interest. The Maharaja went down to the trenches of the first line, between which and the Bosches only 200 yards of ground intervened, and observed the sensational life of their hardy and valiant occupants. He also watched the bombardment of the German lines by the big and small French guns. The whole spectacle was most stirring and impressive.

By a kind dispensation of Providence His Highness narrowly missed travelling from Marseilles on board the ill-fated s. s. "Persia" and, deflecting to Genoa early in December, sailed for Egypt by the Dutch boat Prinz der Nederland on intending to tranship on to the doomed steamer at Port Said 'en route' for India. Nevertheless, some members of the party were amongst the "Persia" passengers, all of whom were saved except a Governess who, to His Highness's intense grief, was drowned. The Maharaja was further affected by the disaster through the loss of all his personal effects including some jewelly.

Owing to this deplorable incident His Highness was held up in Egypt for a fortnight beyond his programme waiting for the arrival of the P. and O. boat s. s. "Medina" on board which he eventually concluded the remaining part of the voyage to Bombay, where he landed on the 18th January this year. The return journey from Bombay to the Capital of the State was broken for a few hours at Delhi where His Highness visited and lunched with His Excellency the late Viceroy, Lord Hardinge. Kapurthala was reached on the 23rd January. The Maharaja's safe arrival home after such an eventful tour was marked by scenes of immense public enthusiasm both at the gaily bedecked Railway Station and in the town.

In the administration report of Kapurthala State, we read:—

Last year's report contained a brief allusion to the activities of the returned emigrants and the measures that were adopted for keeping their incendiary propoganda under effective restraint. No relaxation of those measures was allowed during the year under report and it affords me great pleasure to record that their enforcement resulted in the preservation of internal quiet and tranquillity. No attempt was made by our "local" returned emigrants to create a disturbance. All the trouble, which was considerable, we have had came from their confreres from beyond the border. After murderding the Zaildar of Nangal in Hoshiarpur district they wented their way to Namana, a village in Phagwara tahsil of the State, found a temporary asylum in the village school and endeavoured to seduce their hosts from the path of loyalty and their peaceful avocations. The timely establishment of a police post and other supplementary precautions saved the situation. The most diabolic plot against the State was hatched towards the end of May. The plan was to raid the magazine of the Imperial Service Regiment, secure a sufficient number of rifles, and ammunition and then march on the treasury or into neighbouring districts to terrorize the people and overawe the Government. A score of men assembled close to Bawa Parduman Singh's garden on the Kartarpur road and discussed the pros and cons of the proposed assault. It was decided to postpone it till the next Saturday when they would collect in greater strength. Meanwhile they voted for an attack on the Wallah bridge guard with a view to procuring arms for use in looting our magazine. A batch of the most desperate of them, 8 in number, was deputed to accomplish this heinous deed.

"In consequence, a situation of extreme gravity demanding careful and stringent treatment supervened and

the State administration rose to the occasion in a manner that elicited warm acknowledgments from Government."

Civil and Military Gazette.

A correspondent writes:—The Garparb was celebrated by the Singh Sabha with great enthusiasm on the 9th and 10th instant, in the sacred hall of the new Gurdwara. The "Nagar-keertan" was conducted on the evening of the 8th. Sardar Sohan Singh, Editor of the "Khalsa Advocate" Pandit, Chandra Bhan of Kamalia, and Baba Brij Balab Singh delivered speeches, and the girls of the Sikh Kanya School, Jaspal, recited syabads from the Guru Granth Sahib. H. H. the Maharaja Sahib, H. H. the Maharani Sahiba, the Tikka Sahib and the Kunwar Sahib were present at the meeting. On the evening of the 10th the Sikh students of the Randhir School and College gave, in honour of the occasion, an address and a garden party to the Hindu and Mahomedan students of the institutions. Pandit Mathra Das, M. A., L. L. B., the Principal of the College presided over the function. The whole affair was a great success.

THE PRINCES AS CRIKETEES.

Indianman.

One of the features of the past cricket season, if that term may be employed, has been the appearance at Lord's, the Oval, and elsewhere, of a team playing under the all-embracing title of Native Students. This has been led by Kumar Shri Pratapsinhji, who is one of the several nephews of the Jamsaheb of Navnagar, who are just now being educated in England. Two of Pratapsinhji's brothers, Digvijayasinhji and Hamatsinhji, have taken part in these matches, and the eleven has at times also included two sons of the Gaekwar of Baroda, Kumar B. and Kumar D. Gaekwar, as

well as the Rajah of Bhonsle. So that these young scions of the houses of various Indian Native potentates have endeavoured to carry on much in the same way that their seniors have done on a greater field, to the admiration of the whole world, and the disgust and disappointment of that world's arch enemy.

It was hoped that Kumar Shri Bahadursinhji, Minor Chief of Palitana, would be able to play in the match at the Oval against the Public Schools, but, at the last moment, he found himself unable to make the journey from Wales to take part in a day's cricket. He was in the Shrewsbury School XI, and will be there, one hears, next year.

The eleven of Native Students has been greatly strengthened by the presence and play of H. Gunesekara, whose home, I am told, is in Ceylon. He is quite a good batsman, and a really good bowler, right-handed, of medium pace, with several ways of getting a batsman out. He would do well in country cricket. Of that I have not the slighest doubt, as he is, in addition, a good field anywhere, and would thus be worth his place in the eleven of any country in England. Like all these bowlers his is rather simple-looking stuff from the ring, but it is, for one thing, some yards faster than it looks, and possesses all-important fight.

Next to him, K. S. Hamatsinhji, of the Malvern XI., is the best crickeeter, not excepting Bajana, who has played for Somerset but who was not playing in the match when our group was taken. Hamatsinhji has in him the makings of a really good wicket-keeper. He is very good already on the leg side, and a really quick stamper. A fine hard-wicket batsman, he is full of strokes all round the wickets, his weakness being a rather curious uncertainty against slow bowling. When he and Gunesekara made something like 80 for the first wicket at the Oval, and I started with slow bowling at both ends (one of the bowlers sending down full tosses fo

the most part!) we had both of them out for under 15 each, yet the faithful chronicler of these important incidents in the world's history crushed me by stating that the batsmen were "aided by slow bowlers being put on," but omitted to allude to the early chances given! Still, that is cricket chronicling A. D. 1916, and we have to put up with it.

K. S. Pratapsinhji made many runs in a match at Lord's, in which Hamatsinhji made 75 in fear and trembling that his famous uncle should see his name in the papers as playing cricket when he ought to have been working. But if a man plays a good innings Navnagar would readily forgive him much! Pratap bowls a bit and fields cover with alacrity. Digvijayasinhji seems to enjoy his cricket. He came in at the Oval, took guard, told me held got ten minutes in which to catch a train, hit two or three fours in the first over, amassed 40 or so in about a quarter of an hour, and looked extremely like missing that train when he got out to an "anyhow" sort of shot. I hope he caught it, as we enjoyed his blow as much as he appeared to do.

Kumar B. Gaekward is sent in too low down in the list, and D. Gaekward, who is one of the smallest persons I have ever seen on a cricket field, I have not seen enough of as a batsman to write about. He is wonderfully good in the field considering his tiny hands and feet. The Raja of Bhonsle plays in spectacles, and shows promise of being a useful player one of these days. I have omitted to mention that Hamat is a very good boxer—a game not often excelled in by the high-caste native—and is also a good Soccer player.

To rank with H. Gunesekra, Hamat and Bajana I would place H. S. Malik, the old Eastbourne College boy, who has already won a Blue at Oxford on the links. He has played for the Sussex XI. On his form on hard stuff at the Oval I shoud imagine him to be a pretty good bowler, right-

handed, and slow-medium, on a soft wicket. He was handicapped that day first by playing in borrowed boots that pinched, and after tiffin, by playing in his ordinary shoes with nails hurriedly knocked into soles unsuited to hold them.

The stern necessity for study kept one of the best of the Native players out of these game in town. I refer to P. Saravanamutu, whose home should be in the Madras Presidency. I met him at Cambridge, where, through the lens, he looked to be quite a good bastman. Playing his stroke very late he showed excellent wristwork, and footwork of the right kind. In the photo he has played a good glance—a certain four—off a fast half-volley pitching just short of his left foot. The wrists are obvious in the picture.

V. Gunesekara is not so good a player as H., but is useful for all that, and the best of the others who did not play in this match at the Oval is another player from Ceylon, Wijiyaratne by name. He made a century for "the Tropics C. C." (a different organisation to that of the Native Students) at Lord's, and helped to win their match against the Public Schools XI, at the Oval. Built, on small lines, he is full of strokes, and is a good field, and not half a bad bowler, but his judgment in running is so indifferent that within the space of twenty minutes the boys had four clear chances of running out either him or his partner Hamatsinhji. Those missed chances cost the boys the match.

Should there be no first-class cricket in 1917 it is to be hoped that those who are responsible for this Native Students' team will set their house in order early, and have a programme of fixtures cut and dried by the middle of June, leaving nothing as is unfortunately rather a way with them, to the last. They have made the first step which counts, and many friends, and should now forge ahead, especially as their cricket is never dull to watch or to share in.

E. H. D. Sewell.

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THE COCHIN TOUR.

Indian Patriot.

Ballygange, Nov. 16.—At 4-30 P.M. on the 12th H. H's special reached the Benares Railway Station. As the Raja of Benares was out of the capital, H. H. and party were kindly received by the Chief Secretary to His Highness, the Aid-de-camp and also the Comptroller. Half-a-dozen cars were ready at the station which was neatly decorated for H. H's reception. After His Highness and party were garlanded they were conducted to the Palace on the banks of the Ganges near the Asi ghat which was beautifully decorated and furnished for H. H's stay. H. H. took leave of them all and retired at 5 P.M.

At 7 A.M. on the 13th H. H. and party started for bath in the sacred river below the Bangalow. After bath, H. H. and party were conducted to the famous temple of Benares in a boat specially arranged for H. H.'s use by the Raja of Benares. As the finest view of this religious capital of India can only be had from the river Ganges, the banks of which are bordered by the different ghats or flights of stone steps descending to the water from the most famous buildings of this city, His Highness took special delight in seeing these from the boat. H. H. spent most of his time in the boat, passing along the whole river frontage, performing snanams or prokshanams at all the ghats and also seeing numbers of people crowding together to bath in the water of the sacred river of this Holy City. After this H. H. and party worshipped the God Siva, the most important of all the temples and special prayers and offerings were made in honour of H. H's. visit. Money and food was freely distributed in all the temples visited by His Highness and H. H. returned home at 12 noon.

At 5 P.M. again H. H. and party visited the several temples again and worshipped. The streets and lanes are peculiar to the place and are noted for their narrowness. The breadths vary from 2 to 8 ft ; especially near these temples, 2 men cannot walk abreast. The town on the wole is not healthy in spite of several of these holy temples in the vicinity and the River Ganges running beside these. H.H. returned home at 8 P.M.

At 7 A.M. on the 14th after the temple worships H. H. and party drove through the town. His Highness visited the State Choultry at Benares and was quite pleased at the arrangements made there by the Superintendent to receive the guests. The kitchen, store-room and different bed rooms were minutely examined and several details of working were also inquired in to.

At 10 P.M. H. H's Consort and children accompanied by the Sarwadhikarikar started to Gaya to perform religious ceremonies there. The specia

arrangement made at Gaya for His Highness's reception was grand and the Consort after performing these religious ceremonies at the temple returned to Benares again at 10 P.M. on 15th and was devoted to temple worship and sight seeing.

After the onam and religious functions at Ari Ghat on the 16th, His Highness accompanied by the Dawan, Mr. Menon and Sarwadhikari visited the famous Central Hindu College and Schools at 10 A. M. in the Kamacha quarter, started under the auspices of Mrs. Annie Besant. They were received at the portico by the Principal of the College, Mr. Seshadri, who invited His Highness personally the previous day. Several students in Hindu uniform escorted the guests to each of the class rooms. After introducing His Highness to every one of the staff, His Highness was conducted to a platform specially arranged for the occasion. Religious songs and hymns were sung and special prayers offered by the students. After this—His Highness was shown the hostel and boarding houses, the chemical laboratory, the Museum, Library etc. The College, of course, attains its object in combining religious and moral education with mental and athletic development for Hindu youths. Special drill with Indian Clubs accompanied by Hindu songs was gone through by the students in uniform in the presence of His Highness.

After visiting all the important places of this institution, His Highness and party next visited the Ramakrishna Hospital for the Sanyasis and the poor. His Highness returned home at 12 noon.

No special engagement was there in the evening except the visit of His Highness the Rajakumar of Benares. After this, liberal presents were given to all who assisted His Highness to perform the religious ceremonies specially the 'Pindas' of Benares.

After the bath again at 5 P. M. H. H. and party accompanied by the Dewan started for Calcutta by special at 7 P. M.

At 9 A.M., on the 17th His Highness's special reached the Howrah Railway Station when His Excellency's Military Secretary was ready waiting to receive His Highness. After His Highness and party were garlanded, they were conducted to the car outside and His Highness took leave of all present.

The Bungalow arranged for His Highness's stay at Calcutta is of European style, which His Highness most liked, at Ballygaunge 5 miles from the station. In the evening His Highness had a pleasure drive through the town and returned home at 8 P. M.

His Highness and his son accompenied by Mr. Menon and Sarwadhikari motored to the Government House at 10 A.M., on the 18th to see His

Excellency. The Private Secretary and the Aide-de-Camp were ready to receive His Highness and party. After the interview which lasted for about 20 minutes, His Highness and party were shown round the whole Government House. After this, arrangements were kindly made by His Excellency's Private Secretary for His Highness' visit to all the important institutions and places of importance in the city and letters were sent, on the spot by the Secretary to the heads of the various institutions such as the Government Museum, Botanical Gardens, the Zoological Gardens, Victoria Memorial Institute, the Post, the Fort Buildings the Jain Temple, the Picture Palace etc. A special guide was also sent to His Highness during His Highness's stay at Calcutta to take His Highness round. His Highness and party returned home at 11-30 A.M.

At 4 P. M, His Highness and party motored to visit the Victoria Memorial Institute where all the select ancient pictures, photos and articles of furniture were collected. The Superintendent Mr. Gupta was ready at the portico. His Highness and party were shown round the hall. The collections are splendid and the painted portraits of the Governors-General of India are very nice and valuable. His Highness highly appreciated the worthy collections and took leave at 5 30 P. M., and motored to the Zoological Gardens close by. There also the Superintendent was kind enough to show His Highness round. After this, His Highness and party motored to the palace at Ballygaunge at 7-30 P. M.

At 8 A. M., on the 19th, His Highness and party visited the site of the famous Blackhole of Calcutta and motored through all the important streets of the city.

At 10 A. M, His Highness visited the famous bridge at Howrah. The closing and opening of this bridge was also shown by the authorities. The engineering principles of the structure were very well explained. His Highness grasped to the full and His Highness returned home at 12 noon.

At 4 P. M. the port of Howrah with the different docks, locks and coal sheds were visited and His Highness minutely observed the details & construction and nicely compared the two structures at Bombay and Calcutta and noted the difference. The bridge worked by the hydraulic power by the side of the dock was also shown and explained by the Port Officer. After visiting the new market at 7 P. M., His Highness and party returned home at 8 P M.

On the 20th morning His Highness visited the Botanical Garden and noted how manure is kept preserved and applied to different plants why certain plants do not thrive well at Calcutta, the cost of maintenance

In the evening of 20th there was the function of laying the foundation stone of Romesh Chander Dutt Memorial by His Excellency. His Highness arrived at the memorial pavilion at 4-45 P.M., as soon as His Excellency stepped out of his car. After His Highness was seated at the platform by the side of His Excellency, a select programme was gone through in detail. The real function of laying the foundation stone by His Excellency was over by 5 45 P. M. The Secretary thanked His Highness specially for honouring the occasion with his presence and the meeting dispersed. After exchanging words for a few minutes with His Excellency, His Highness took leave and motored to the famous Jain Temple at Calcutta close by.

Special Puja was performed at the temple in honour of His Highness' visit and the most beautiful and costly temple was shown round lit with electric lights. Lakhs and lakhs of rupees were spent on its construction. It is a temple of paradise built with marble and precious stones. His Highness and party returned home at 8 P.M.

On the morning of 21st at Fort Buildings the Chief Commander with 2 officers received His Highness and party at the gate of the fort. His Highness motored through the inside of the fort. The magazine house, the fort, the old guns etc., were also shown and His Highness returned home at 12 noon. At 4 P. M., Museum was visited. The Superintendent received His Highness. The different collections and specimens were neatly explained and shown. His Highness and party returned at 7 P.M.

No doubt it is really a great honour done to the Raja of Cochin at Calcutta, where all the visits to the important institutions of the place were made by the help of His Excellency who gave orders to make special arrangements at these places for His Highness's visit.

At 12 noon on 20th, H. H's Consort had a private interview with Her Excellency Lady Carmichael. The interview lasted 15 minutes and Her Excellency was very much pleased at the Consort's shrewdness and intelligence.

Indian Patriot.

After an extensive tour, stretching over the whole of India, except the Punjab, His Highness the Rajah of Cochin arrived in Madras yesterday, and will be among his beloved subjects day after to-morrow, when an address will be presented to him at the Durbar Hall at Ernakulam. His Highness' presence at the Chiefs' Conference at Delhi, where he moved with the best-known Princes of India, was a distinct honour of which Cochin is and well may be proud. Wherever His Highness went he was the recipient of right royal reception, and, as the special articles that appeared in the *Indian Patriot* have shown, His Highness has left an abiding impression behind

him by his princely courtesy. Cochin, although in point of income and area may not be a first class State, stands second to none in efficiency of administration. The name of Cochin is among the foremost of Indian States, and the people of Cochin may well be proud of their ruler who took a leading part in the Conference of Princes and returns to them after a prolonged tour of study and observation. It was but natural that the path of His Highness should lie through several Indian States, where he could have, if we may say so, compared notes. We are sure that, while His Highness might have seen much to admire, and perhaps, even to copy, he would have realised, as he could never have done without coming face to face with realities, how advanced the state is, and how far educated and cultured his subjects are as compared with the people of the foremost states. This is a source of pride both to His Highness and the people. Cochin might well have had an assembly and a council fifty years ago when Pudukottah and Dewas and Miraj and other minor states have them. We are glad that soon after his accession to the throne, His Highness had the occasion to undertake a tour from which we expect nothing but good.

UDAIPUR.

Pioneer.

Udaipur, Nov. 15.—At a banquet here last night, H. H. the Maharaja expressed great pleasure in being able to welcome Their Excellencies to his capital on their very first tour. Their visit was an auspicious one, coming at a time when, owing to copious rains, the lands had yielded a rich harvest and the natural beauty of Udaipur could be seen at its best. His Highness then very briefly alluded to the war and the pleasure which all felt at the successes of the Allies. He hoped that the Almighty might soon bring the struggle to an end granting a complete and glorious victory to the British Government and their Allies. His Highness concluded by asking the guests to drink to Their Excellencies' health.

H. E. the Viceroy replied as follows :—

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—Ever since my arrival in India it has been my eager desire to visit Udaipur, the home of the Premier Chief of Rajputana, the land of beautiful lakes and palaces, the scene of so many glorious deeds of chivalry in the past, the birth-place of so many heroes, Khoman, Hamir Chonda, Kumba, Pratap, Raj Singh, to mention only a few. These are names of which any nation and any age might be proud. It was, therefore, with peculiar pleasure that I received from His Highness

when he visited me in April last, an informal invitation to visit his capital. Uncertainty as to the agricultural situation of Rajputana prevented me at that time, from giving a definite answer to the invitation. But the bountiful rains that have since fallen have removed all anxiety on that account, and I rejoice to think that in visiting Udaipur now I am visiting a country with every prospect of an abundant harvest and of renewed prosperity before it. The visit also afford me the opportunity of improving my acquaintance with His Highness the Maharana whose noble hospitality we are enjoying. The pleasure with which we looked forward to this visit has, I need hardly say, been fully realised and I shall leave Udapur not only with the most delightful recollection of its charm and bounty, but also with the hope that I have inaugurated a real friendship with a Prince whose loyalty is proverbial and who symbolises in his own person all that is most noble, all that is most chivalrous in the Rajput character. My interest in the Native States in India is naturally intense, and I recognise their enormous value and importance in the scheme of the Empire. Their material value has been abundantly shown in the support which they have given so lavishly to the cause of Great Britain in the present war and I congratulate His Highness on the princely share that he has taken in the general demonstration of loyalty and good-will. I feel that in any similar crisis that may occur I can always count on the co-operation of the Ruling Princes and Chiefs of India the importance of this co-operation it would be difficult to exaggerate. I can assure His Highness that I on my part shall always do my best to preserve the dignities and privileges of his princely order and to assist the Indian Rulers in the development of their States and in solving the problems of administration with which they may be confronted. I claim only in return, that my friendly confidence shall be reciprocated, that trust shall be given for trust and that no shadow of doubt or suspicion shall rest between us.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I have no more to say except to thank you for honouring the toast which His Highness proposed in such cordial terms and to call on you to join with me in drinking the health of our illustrious host, His Highness the Maharana Sir Fateh Singh of Udaipur.

MYSORE.

West Coast Spectator.

Mysore under Sir Visweswarayya is, indeed, progressing in all directions.

CHAMBA.

Pioneer.

On the occasion of the Lieutenant-Governor's recent visit to Chamba, His Highness Raja Sir Bhure Singh very generously made over a sum of Rs. 5,000 to Sir Michael and Lady O'Dwyer for distribution among such Funds connected with the war as they might select. They have accordingly given one thousand rupees to each of the following Funds:—(a) The Y. M. C. A. Emergency Fund for work in Mesopotamia; (b) The Lahore Convalescent's Fund; (c) Lady O'Dwyer's Comforts Fund; (d) The St. John Ambulance Association, Punjab; and (e) The Belgian Childrens' Relief Fund.

BARODA.

Bombay Chronicle.

The Government of H. H. the Gaekwar of Baroda have decided to hold an Agricultural and Industrial Exhibition at Baroda in the first week of January. The Exhibition will be divided into four sections—Agriculture Industries, Forest and Education. There will also be a Horticultural Show at the time. For the entertainment of the large number of visitors who are expected there will be many interesting side-shows. The Committee appointed to organise the Exhibition is also trying to arrange a series of lectures on various subjects by prominent men from different parts of the country.

HYDERABAD.

Indian Patriot.

When it was announced nearly two years ago that His Highness the Nizam would be his own Minister, many thought that except that there would be no post of Prime Minister, the work would be carried as usual in the various secretariats. The administration report now published sets all such doubts at rest. His Highness is the real Minister, with a grip of affairs that is remarkable. Every department is passing through his careful scrutiny. It is a great thing, indeed, to be able to take up entire responsibility for the whole management of the State. But in this period of transition in Hyderabad from the backward to the forward, it is very necessary, indeed that the Ruler should himself personally supervise the entire machinery, as far as possible. This His Highness has come forward to undertake with a zeal that has left its mark in the Report.

GWALIOR.

Jayaji Pratab.

In offering hearty greetings and congratulations on the 41st Birthday to our beloved Ruler, we desire say a few words about the new role and responsibilities that the benign Providence has laid upon him, namely that of the Father, Guardian and Tutor of the Heir to the Gwalior Raj.

With what conspicuous success His Highness has been discharging his duties as a Ruler, Vassal and Ally of the King-Emperor, has been noticed in the columns of this paper before. Only ten months ago when an enduring monument of his filial piety, namely, a statue of his illustrious father was raised in the centre of the market-square. The opening ceremony in connection with this was very touching. While recounting the virtues of his father His Highness was almost moved to tears! This was a weakness of which any strong man might be proud. Mr. Hamilton in eulogising the achievements of Maharaja Jayaji Rao Scindia, rightly said that the greatest thing that his late Highness had done was to present his son to the Empire the son who is rendering such valuable services to his King, the Empire and the Country in these days of storm and stress. The cares of his own State were heavy enough; he has far greater anxiety to find ways and means of rendering more efficient service to the King.

The amity, accord and goodwill that subsisted between the Indian Chiefs and Lord Hardinge was so transparent that even in the short interval of a few days at Bombay His Excellency Lord Chelmsford was struck by it and to which he made such a felicitous reference in his opening speech delivered at the Chiefs' Conference, Delhi. Lord Hardinge was kind, considerate and sweet to all, high and low. Wherever he went he seemed to scatter smiles and goodwill but his personal relations with our Ruler were intimate and

affectionate. His sojourn in the midst of us during the last Christmas, on the eve of his retirement, was a very touching testimonial to the friendship he bore for our Ruler. His Highness has thus shown himself to be an ideal Any, King, Son, and Friend. He has now to play the most difficult role, that of a father and guardian to the Yuvaraj. We have used the word 'difficult' advisedly, for to a man, constituted like our Maharaja, the task will be one of extreme difficulty. His Highness has high ideals. He has done much in his time. He has organised laws, laid down general lines of his policy, instituted different departments which are giving effect to his wishes and contributed so much to the well-being and welfare of his millions, but we who come in personal contact with him, know that he is not satisfied with what he has achieved and wants to do much more. All his hopes are now centered upon his son. He would want him to be educated perfectly, to carry out his visions and ideals. While perfectly equipped mentally and physically he would want his son to have all the graces and accomplishments which a fond father's and a careful guardian's efforts and care can invest him with. His Highness has now to see that the young Prince is brought up in healthy environments, that while he is growing in body and mind he is imbibing healthy impressions. That he will be an accomplished rider, a keen sportsman, a mighty warrior, a Bayard of courtesy, a highly enlightened young gentleman goes without saying. It will be for his father to take him graduully and cautiously along the difficult mazes of politics and teach him the duties of a Ruler. His Highness's present achievements which are bearing fruit and are engraved on the consciousness of his grateful people, will pale into insignificance before this grand achievement for which posterity will be grateful to His Highness is of a ripe old age and finds that the young Prince is all that he wants (of course, the young Prince will now and again have to have rather hard times with his martinet of a father, but who does

not know the glorious lines of the Persian poet, purporting to say that the seeming harshness of the tutor is better than the love of a fond parent ?) and feels weary with the weight and cares of his functions to his youg son and Assistant in order that in his own life-time he may have a foretaste of what His Highness the Maharaja of Datia so nicely said in the Chota Barsa Banquet speech, that the great glory and desire of a father is to be out shone by his son.

The readers of the "Jayaji Pratap" will have seen why we have called the role of the Parent and Guardian on the Yuvaraj a difficult one. Tbe task is as glorious as it is difficult, and one from which any ordinary mortal might shrink, but we know the stuff of which His Highness the Maharaja Madho Rao Scindia is made. He is made of the stuff of Heros—if he had been born three centuries earlier, we can imagine what he would have accomplished. His destiny has, by a wise Providence, been cast in more peaceful times, under the fostering care of a benign Paramount Power. The victories of peace are no less important, far-reaching and glorious than the victories of war. While offering him our hearty congratulations on the birth of a New Year, let us express a fervent hope that His Highness will in his son realize all the dreams and ambitions of his life, as a poet has very happily put in the mouth of a husband addressing his wife —

"When time by envy transported"
"Will seek to rob us of our joys"
"You in your girls will again be courted"
"And I will go wooing in my boys."

II.

There was a time in India when the importance of the ruling princes was not fully recognised. But in recent times they form an important factor in the affairs of not

only India, but also the British Empire. The Conference of Ruling Princes held at Delhi has demonstrated the value of their assistance and guidance to India as a whole. Though for administrative purposes the Native States stand rather apart from British Provinces and their affairs are not generally discussed outside the States themselves, yet for all practical purposes the same forces that influence the political, administrative, economic and social progress of British provinces, largely affect the Native States also, and their Rulers are regarded as leaders guiding the progress of India, as a whole. The most enlightened among them are already taking an active interest in important British Indian movements, besides improving the affairs of their own States. It is unnecessary to enter into details regarding this, but these facts help to understand the legitimate place of Ruling Princes of India and the value attached to their internal and external activities.

Considered in this light, Uis Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior undoubtedly occupies the front rank among the Ruling Princes whose names are prominently mentioned for their eminent virtues, personal and administrative. Since the outbreak of the war, His Highness' name has appeared very frequently in the Indian Press and is highly commended for his numerous and generous gifts. He stands to-day as one of the chief pillars of modern India, supporting the Empire with a loyalty and devotion to the British Throne which has become the wonder of the world. His Highness rules over a State whose situation, history, extent, and population give it an importance which no other State can claim. When the State is fully developed and its people are awakened, this fact will be better understood. Nothing impresses an outsider more than the wise and inspiring remarks made by His Highness the Maharaja in the annual administration reports. They show His Highness' genios for civil Government which many a British Indian statesman might well

envy. His Highness' enthusiasm for uplifting the people of his State, for improving their economic and moral well-being, and for instilling a high sense of duty and strict integrity among his officials, are the brightest features of Gwalior I have seen. Happy indeed is the State which is ruled by a monarch whose love of his subjects in manifested in his incessant labours for the progress of his State. No one who visits Gwalior can fail to be impressed by the high ideals of its ruler and his enlightened policy which has given the people all the modern conveniences and facilities for moral and material welfare. The magnificent public buildings, the stately Schools and Colleges, the luxurious Hospitals, the fine State Hotels and free Lodging Houses, the extensive rail and road-ways and electric appliances, the broad clean streets, Courts, Markets, Theatres and other places of amusement—all give the visitors the most pleasing impression that Gwalior is in every respect a Model State, and its Ruler the most enlightened Prince in India.

People in the British provinces evince an increasing interest in the progress and well being of Native States. Some of them are looked upon as models and most of them maintain the great traditions of ancient Indian Kings in promoting learning, in encouraging religious studies, in protecting and feeding the poor, and in numerous other ways, showing a fatherly care and interest in the welfare of the subjects. His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior is a lover of past traditions and has in his State maintained the many features of charity and benevolence which have ever been regarded as attributes of kingship. Nevertheless His Highness possesses all the modern attributes of western culture which are reflected in the recent improvements made in the State. It serves moreover, as an ideal for others and in setting such successful examples, the lead given by His Highness to others of his class will be most enduring. What His Highness has done in the field of industries is well-known to all. His

Highness' railway policy, in equipping the State with a complete net-work of narrow gauge lines is unsurpassed by any other State. In recent times irrigation projects have been undertaken on a liberal scale. Industrial schools, co-operative societies and banks are a feature of the recent economic improvements. Thus we find that His Highness rules not only over one of the largest and most populous Native States of India, but has also established an enlightened and progressive system of government under which the moral and material happiness of the people is well assured.

Thus both personally and by administrative accomplishments we find His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior may be regarded as the foremost among Indian Rulers. One of his great predecessors has figured in history as the maker of an Empire and his wonderful success in the most difficult times has earned for him the just estimate of the historians as "the greatest Indian of the eighteenth century, a great soldier, a man of great political sagacity, deep artifice and restless ambition." His Highness at present rules over a territory hallowed by the undying merits of Vikramaditya and Bhoja. The sweet and soul-stirring shlokas of Kalidasa, one of the literary gems adorning the court once, are still chanted by the young and the old with a pleasure enhanced—not diminished—by age. The achievements of the past may inspire generations to come to aim at deeds of equal renown and His Highness may be known to future historians as the greatest Indian Ruler of the twentieth century.

Coming to our own particular State the Ruler of Gwalior—the premier State in Central India—whom the writer has the proud privilege of serving, combines in himself the happy role of a guide, philosopher and friend and naturally makes a very successful administrator. Imbubed with a high sense of public duty, he has dedicated himself to the service of his State and his people and consequently leads a

very strenuous life. Addressing a public meeting, Lord Rosebery once placed the following ideals of public service before the audience : —

"Keep this motive before you of public duty and public service, for the sake of the Empire and also on your account. You will find it, I believe, the most ennobling human motive that can guide your actions. And while you will help the country by observing it, you will also help yourselves. Life in itself is but a poor thing at best ; it consists of only two certain parts, the beginning and the end—the birth and the grave. Between these two points lies the whole area of human choice and human opportunity. You may embellish and consecrate it if you will, or you may let it lie stagnant and dead. But if you choose the better part, I believe that nothing will give your life so high a complexion as to study to do something for your country."

This high and noble ideal of public service is unflinchingly pursued and constantly striven after by the illustrious Maharaja who, to quote his own words, regards himself no better than as a "paid servant of his State—only more highly paid than the others." What a noble ideal of duty does this one single trait of his character serve to illustrate! No wonder that he is looked up to with so much love, reverence and veneration by his people and is immensely popular with them. That among his compeers he is 'facile princeps' is admitted on all hands. With him work is worship and strenuous labour the very apotheosis of a successful life. To his incessant labours is due, in a large measure, the remarkable versatility of his genius.

"Scindia," writes an Anglo-Indian in the 'London Observer,' "is a soldier and statesman, financier and engineer, a mighty hunter of big game and a captain of industry. He is as versable as the Kaiser, as full of energy as Mr. Roosevelt That he manages his own important State with a Prime

Minister is only the least of his activities. His great wealth. is not looked up, but is put to reproductive uses, and he has, been known to offer to take up an entire Government loan on his own account. He is a man of his hands, and when he builds a railway he can show his people how to drive the locomotives, yet he is simple in his personal habits, and only those who have walked with him long hours in the moonlight "beside the big gun" on the terrace before his glorious palace know the variety of his interests, and the piercing vision that lights his active brain. All the younger princes of India look to him for counsel and example." That this description is literally true, only those who enjoy the happy privilege of knowing him at close quarters, and of studying his wonderful personality, can fully realise. The pleasantest of persons in the amenities of social life, he knows how to assert his authority when occarion requires. He has studied every page of the human calendar and can with consummate skill feel the pulse of the body-politic and lay his unerring finger on an aching spot. Being a preacher and prophet of a policy of promptitude, there is no such thing as delay, deferment, shuffling or hesitation in his scheme of things. Gwalior is naturally carving out a glorious career for itself under the ægis of its illustrious Ruler and is destined to shine as a star of the first magnitude in the galaxy of Indian States.

As in Gwalior, so in many other States, the future is full of promise and there is every reason to hope that they will henceforth be viewed in their true perspective and an ever-increasing measure of confidence vouchsafed to them in the hierarchy of Indian public opinion.

INDORE.

New India.

The Maharaja Holkar of Indore is rapidly improving his State. He last year established compulsory and free

vernacular education, and this year's budget provides large sums for carrying it on. The Vedashala is turned into a Samskrit College, and municipal government has been introduced in important towns. The water-supply of Indore has been improved, and drink is more highly taxed. Now His Highness has presented a gift of two lakhs from his privy purse to his people, and invites suggestions as to how to utilise it best. It is splendid to see how the younger Princes of India are leading on their States in the forefront of progress.

RAJPIPLA.

Advocate of India.

"A few more years of enlightened administration might place Rajpipla in the front rank of progressive states." The people generally are happy and contended. The taxation is light. The people seem to enjoy the ease and comforts of patriarchal rule and a not too rigorous system of administration. But times are changing, and the state is already on the onward path. Its youthful ruler, who was installed last year on the Gadi on the death of his father, has received liberal education at the Rajkumar College, and he will doubtless give his ready consent to the reforms which are contemplated by the Dewan, Mr. Pheroze H. Dastur, who has been endeavouring to introduce an enlightened principle of administration in the state. In the letter, with which he submits his report to his liegelord, he invites his attention to the improvements needed in various directions, such as the utilization of a vast area of cultivable land now lying waste, a better system of revenue collection, the reorganization of the police the drainage of Nandod, the capital town, and regulations agains the wholesale destruction of trees.

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LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN MYSORE.

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDER.

A Brief History of Local Self-Government in Mysore.—The first step in creating local bodies for the control of local affairs was taken in the State in the year 1862 when Municipal Committees were experimentally constituted for the cities of Bangalore and Mysore. The measure having proved a success, similar Committees were formed for the remaining district head-quarter towns and gradually for other towns also. By 1872-73 there were fifty-eight municipalties serving the needs of an urban population of nearly 5,00,000 with an annual income of Rs. 3½ lakhs. The next step was the constitution in 1874 of District Committees in rural areas for the administration of local funds levied within the district, to provide for works and understandings, such as roads, wells and other sources of water supply, hospitals, dharmasalas, markets, etc. These Committees were constituted and worked under the executive orders of Government, except in the case of Bangalore and Mysore cities. The need of placing the working of these bodies on a statutory and definite basis was indeed felt very early, but practical action wa taken only after the institutions have been working for well-nigh half a century. The Local Boards Regulation came into force in 1902 and the Municipal Regulations in 1906.

2. **Reasons for a Forward Step.**—The question of enhancing the usefulness of these bodies for improving local administration has engaged the attention of the public and been pressed on the notice of Government for some time past. In a letter to the Government of India, His Highness' Government wrote in 1885:—"In working these Committees it has been found difficulties to awaken in the minds of the non-official members most interested in the administration of local funds, a full sense of their powers and duties and the whole administration of the funds has practically fallen into the hands of Government officers. This is chiefly owing to the preponderence of the official members and to the undefined and almost unlimited subordination of the Committees to Government officials in the administration of the funds." These remarks would apply with equal force at present, especially with regard to District and Taluk Boards and minor municipalities, in spite of the advance in education and enlightenment in recent years. There is reason to believe that the apathy displayed by the non-officil members of the local bodies is attributable to a great extent to—

(1) the deficiency of the elected popular element,

(2) the want of reasonable powers of disposal over their funds, and

(3) interference in detail exercised by departments of Government over the affairs of local bodies.

Government therefore consider that the time has come to review the progress made and to take such forward steps as may be necessary in order to associate the peopl more largely with the administration of local affairs.

3. **Investigation by two Committees and a Conference.**—In February 1914, a Committee was constituted with Rajasevadhurina Mr. M Kantaraja Urs. C.S.I., as Chairman to consider what improvements were necessary n the constitution and functions of local bodies. In accordance with G. O. No. G. 9260-3—G. M. 67-13-234 dated 15th May 1914, another Committee was formed under the chairmanship of Rajamantrapravina Dewan Bahadur Mr. C. Srinivasa Iyengar, with the gentlemen

whose names are noted in the margin as members to investigate the scope of operation and financial organisation of the several local funds and to propose measures for their revision and for placing local finances on a satisfactory footing. The reports of the two Committees which were published respectively, in May and June 1915, contain a full discussion of these subjects. The thanks of Government are due to the members of the two Committees for the careful and satisfactory manner in which they went into the question and for the valuable reports submitted by them.

In June 1915, on the initiative of certain leading non-official gentlemen, a Local-Boards Conference, presided over by Rajasabhushana Dewan Bahadur Mr. K. P. Puttana Chetty, was convened to discuss the whole question of reforms in local self government. This Conference, on which nearly all the local bodies in the State were represented, considered, there commendations of the two Committees referred to above and placed Government in possession of the views of the public on all the important questions involved.

The specific recommendations made by them will now be discussed and the decision of Government as to the practical action to be taken on each will be indicated.

5. The Local Self-Government Committee suggest that three classes of municipalities may be recognised in the State, viz., city, town and minor municipalities. According to them, the existing non-regulation municipalities should not be disestablished but should be brought under the Regulation as minor municipalities, the more complex provisions of the Regulation being declared inapplicable to the Government except those views which are endorsed by the Conference, with the modification that the limits of population for town and minor municipalities will be 5,000 to 2,000, instead of 7,000 and 2,500 respectively, proposed by the Committee. As a result of fixing this limit many towns which have municipalities now—regulation and non-regulation—may be, deprived of the privilege of municipal self-government, but Government reserve to themselves the right to extend the Municipal Regulations to such of them as by past experience have become entitled to retain the privilege. On the other hand, as some towns containing the prescribed population may not yet be ripe for municipal administration, Government will introduce in the Regulation an enabling provision so that the rule may not act automatically in every case.

It is observed that beyond recommending the classification, the Committee offer no detailed suggestions as regards the varying powers to be given to, and degrees of control to be exercised over, the different classes of Municipalities. Government are of opinion that a greater degree of control would be necessary, at least for some time to come, in the case or minor municipalities, where there may be little or no public spirit.

6. Constitutiion.—As regards the constitution of Municipal Councils, Government accept the recommendation of the Conference that the number of elected Councillors should be not less than two-thirds of the total strength in city municipalities, half in town and one-third minor municipalities. But in respect of the two latter they reserve discretion to increase the number of elective seats in special cases.

7. Chairman.—The Municipal Regulation, as it stands provides for the election of both President and Vice-President, if Government so direct; but till recently,

these officers have been generally nominated officials. Government are prepared to accept, as a general policy and so far as conditions allow the principle recommended by the Local Boards Conference of the election of Presidents and Vice-Presidents in city and town Municipal Councils. They also consider that in city municipalities the alternative of a full time paid president who may not necessarily be an official should be provided for in the Regulation. In minor municipalities unless competent men are available, the President will continue to be nominated by Government, the Vice-President being where possible,elected by the Municipal Council.

8. Chief Executive Officers.—It is likely that Presidents and Vice-Presidents will ordinarily be busy professional men who cannot devote their full time to superintend the details of municipal work. Moreover frequent change of the executive head is detrimental to continuing a policy and administrative efficiency. Hence it is necessary that Municipal Councils should employ paid permanent men, so far as their funds permit to attend to the routine executive work under the control of, and in subordination to, the Presidents, and Vice-Presidents. The Municipal Regulations contains a provision for the appointment of a Chief Officer in city Municipal Councils for this purpose. This provision may be extended to Town Municipal councils also with necessary modifications ; and an official of suitable rank may be appointed for the corresponding duties, in minor municipalilies if there is insufficient work for him.

9. Enlarged powers.—The Committee point out that while the Regulation invests Municipal Councils with very wide and comprehensive powers, the actual control exercised by Government is very large. It has been recognised everywhere that a certain amount of outside control is very necessary and is not incompatible with local self-government. But such control should be limited to broad questions of policy. In accordance with this view, Government increase the powers now exercised by the Municipal Councils as indicated below :—

According to the Municipal Regulation the budget of every Municipal Council should be submitted through the Deputy Commissioner to Government who may sanction it with such modifications as they deem fit. It has been frequently represented that advantage is taken of this large and comprehensive provision for exercising very minute interference in details. Government agree that there is much force in this view. They consider that only the budgets of city and town municipalities should come up to them for sanction and that it would be sufficient if the budgets of minor municipalities are scrutinised and sanctioned by the Deputy Commissioners. Ordinarily the scrutiny of the Government or the Deputy Commissioner, as the case may be, will be limited to the following points :—

(a) Whether the budgetted receipts are framed with due regard to the actuals of the previous years.

(b) Whether the prescribed closing balance is maintained.

(c) Whether due provision has been made for the repayment of loans, if any, due to Government or to others, and for contributions for services rendered by Government departments.

(d) Whether there is any extravagant expenditure on establishments (Section 177 of the Municipal Regulation).

(e) Whether all the standing orders and rules framed by Government are duly observed.

The interference of the sanctioning authority in other matters is to be as limited as possible. The Municipal Councils will also be given the power to make re-appropriations of budget grants both under major and minor heads, and to sanction additional grants without trenching on the prescribed minimum balance; except for the purpose of increasing expenditure under establishment.

As against these enlarged powers, Government reserve to themselves the right of making a half-yearly local audit of municipal accounts and for this purpose a certain percentage of establishment charges incurred will be debited to the Municipal Councils concerned. The Deputy Commissioners will be authorised to review all municipal administration report except those of the city municipalities.

10, Increased Scope of Work.—The Local Self-Government Committee and the Conference recommend that the administrative control of elementary education, medical relief including vaccination and muzrai institutions be vested tentatively under proper safeguards, in selected Municipal Councils. Government have no objection to try as an experimental measure the system of gradually transferring the control of elementary education and medical relief to Municipal Councils. When the Municipal Councils concerned make definite proposals in this behalf they will receive favourable consideration. As regards muzrai institutions Government are not in favour of the transfer of all of them to the control of municipal bodies. Minor institutions may be so transferred as circumstances permit; but in the case of major institutions the better course appears to be to vest them in committees of their respective devotees as contemplated in the Muzrai Regulation.

11. Municipal Resources and Taxation.—The income of 89 municipalities at the end of 1914-15 amounted to Rs. 10,79,916. About 32·8 per cent of this was from octrol. House-tax and mohatarfa contributed 21·1 and 8·8 per cent, respectively. The expenditure of the same year was Rs. 11,98,328. The incidence of taxation per head of population was about Rs. 1—8—8.

12. The Local Finance Committee have no suggestions to make as regards fresh sources of income and their recommendations are confined only to the readjustment of the shop-tax and octroi. They suggest that (1) octroi may be abolished and replaced by terminal taxes on goods in municipalities situated on railway lines and (2) that, in lieu of the mohatarfa shop-tax profession taxes on the same scale as in Madras might be levied. They also recommend the enhancement of the house-tax. There are no data at present available to show how far the adoption of these recommendations will result in any appreciable increase of revenue. In their order dated 26th March 1912, Government have laid down their policy with respect to the abolition of octroi and it does not seem possible to go further at present, They however, consider that there is great scope for augmenting the revenues of municipalities by better and more systematic enforcement of the existing powers of taxation and by proper collection of their current demands. The rates of house-tax are in many instances unduly low and no systematic action is taken to revise the classification of houses and buildings with reference to their market value. From the latest administration report it is seen that only 86 per cent of the current demand and 38 per cent of the arrears of previous years were collected. Government would urge on all the Municipal Councils the importance of obtaining the

maximum income under the present rules and of taking every opportunity of increasing their resources. Each municipality may submit to Government definite recommendations suited to local conditions for any modification of the existing system of municipal taxation, e.g., abolition of octroi and replacement of any of the taxes by others suggested by the Committee on local finance. Government are in agreement with the view of this Committee that the income of municipalities should be derived from a few direct sources which can be easily and economically collected and accounted for, and that their expenditure should be limited to those services which secure the greatest benefit without a disproportionate outlay on general or supervising establishments.

13. The Local Finance Committee also recommend that Municipal Councils be empowered to raise loans from the public for productive works. Legislative action to give effect to this has already been taken and it is for the Municipal Councils themselves to submit definite proposals to Government. As regards the question of grants-in-aid they are being sanctioned in the case of municipalities for useful works such as sanitation, water-works, drainage, etc., involving heavy outlay. As far as funds are available Government are prepared, as a general rule, to grant half the capital cost for schemes duly approved by Government, provided the Municipal Council satisfies Government of its ability to raise the other half and to meet the annual maintenance charges. In places where exceptional difficulties exist in this respect, there will be no objection to give special aid as occasions may arise for water-supply and other large and urgent schemes of public improvement.

14. To carry out the above scheme for the development self-government in municipal areas, the Municipal Regulation will have to be amended; detailed rules framed in regard to the various matters dealt with above; and most of the non-regulation municipalities will have to be re-constituted on a statutory basis. A draft Regulation and rules embodying all the changes will be circulated to all regulation municipalities for their views and suggestions.

LOCAL BOARDS.

15. Proposals of the Local Self-Government Committee.—With regard to the Local Boards in rural areas, the local self-Government Committee supported by the Conference have made certain far-reaching proposals calculated to raise the importance and powers of Taluk Boards and Unions. Under the existing Local Boards Regulation, the Taluk Boards and Unions are merely the agents of the District Board with authority to discharge such duties and functions as may be delgeated to them by the latter. As no such delegation has been made, they are merely consultative assemblies and have not hitherto served any very useful purpose in rural boards administration.

The Committee have recorded the opinion that the Mysore Local Boards Regulation is illiberal in the conferring of powers on Local Boards; the Taluk Boards have been wholly inactive; the personnel of the Taluk Boards has been unsatisfactory; the funds at the disposal of Local Boards are inadequate; and that the system saps the very spirit of local self-Government and should be abolished wholesale. It is complained that a large portion of district funds is now spent through the Public Works Department, that the Local Boards are fettered by many restrictions by Government and that there is undue centralization. A large number of recommendations have been made by the Committee for the re-organisation of Local Boards. The scheme suggested by the Committee is briefly to constitute Taluk Boards as incorporated bodies having

their own independent funds with authority to frame their own budgets, and exercising all the functions of the District Boards within the limits of their jurisdiction It is also proposed to raise the status of Unions and make them more independent.

The Committee have, in paragraphs 49 to 53 of their report, submitted a detailed working scheme to give effect to their recommendation defining the specific powers which they wish to see allotted to Unions, Taluk Boards and District Boards.

16. Modifications of the Proposals.—Government accept the general principles on which the Committee's scheme is based, but would modify the scheme on a few essential points.

(1) First as regards constitution, it is desirable that there should be an elected majority in all rural boards, and that the proportion of the elected element should be, not less than two-thirds in District Boards and half in the case of Taluk Boards. The rules regarding elections will be revised so as to empower graduates, advocates and pleaders to vote at, and stand for, election. As a rule either the President or the Vice-President of a rural board should be elected. Under the present conditions, it will not be possible to have elected Presidents in the case of the majority of the Boards; but in all such cases, the Vice-Presidents may, as far as possible, be elected. A carriage allowance may be granted to them, if necessary.

(2) It is proposed by the Committee that the area of the Taluk Boards should be, not the recognised unit of the taluk, but the revenue sub-division which consists of one or more revenue taluks. Government consider that the balance of advantage lies in favour of having the taluk as the unit, and accordingly direct that the existing provision under which each taluk has a board of its own may be adhered to, but its powers be enlarged as recommended by the Committee.

(3) The definition of the spheres of work between the Taluk and the District Boards outlined by the Committee would suggest that the District Boards would be merely supervising bodies with no distinct functions of their own. It is very necessary that the vitality of the District Boards should not be sapped by leaving them practically nothing to do. The proper course appears to be that the District Boards should take up under their own control those functions and services which require a co ordinated organization thoroughout the district and delegate to the Taluk Boards such functions as could be more or less localised. For instance, the Taluk Boards may be given the control of markets, slaughterhouses, travellers' bungalows and "musafirkhanas," planting and care of avenue trees on roads in their control, cattle pounds, etc., while the District Boards may retain the construction and maintenance of roads, which pass through a large portion of the district, construction of large public works, maintenance of relief works, whenever necessary, management of ferries, etc. The actual distribution of functions in each district will have to depend upon local circumstances and each District Board may submit proposals in this connection to the Government or sanction The allotment of funds will, under this suggestion, follow the duties assigned to each Board; but it may be laid down as a statutory rule, that not less than one half the proceeds of the local cess in each taluk shall be placed at the disposal of the Taluq Board concerned.

(4) One important suggestion made by the Committee is about the employment of a separate engineering establishment by local bodies to carry out public works instead of entrusting them to the State Public Works Department as at present. The proposal will

involve a redistribution of charges in the Public Works Department, but Government will be prepared to consider any proposal for the transfer of District Fund works to the Local Boards concerned, wherever the latter are ready to take over such works.

(5) The Committee have left the question of village organisation out of consideration in their scheme. But a system of local self-government will be incomplete unless every village in the State is also brought under some form of statutory organisation. Under the existing system, unions are constituted under the Local Boards Regulation in a few villages and the remainder are not properly looked after. It is necessary to introduce some definite organisation into a larger number of villages. For this purpose it is proposed to place the Village Improvement Committees already working in the State on a statutory basis under the supervision of the Taluk Boards concerned, as hereinafter explained.

17. Under the scheme suggested, the existing system of Union administration will be abolished and power will be taken to coustitute Village Committees for all the villages in the State. These Committees will be designated " Village Panchayets.' The number of members will not be less than three nor more than seven. The majority of the members will be elected and they will have an elected President, not necessarily the Patal or the Shanbhog of the village.

The Panchayets will have three distinct functions as under :—

i. Ordinary duties connected with the maintenance of roads, sanitation, water-supply, drainage etc.

ii. Improvement work as specified in the Village Improvement Scheme.

iii. All other communal work connected with education, irrigation, pasture lands, village forests, village courts, etc.

Provision will be made in the Regulation to enable Government to extend the functions of the Panchayets as circumstances permit in selected villages, with regard to the supervision and control of village education, and other communal interests as provided in Cause (iii)

As regards finances, the income from local taxation in the village and other sources, such as grants from Government or District or Taluk Boards will be constituted into a Village Fund which should be administered by the Panchayets. They will have their own budgets and their own establishment and will be vested with powers to raise an additional cess when necessary, subject to such conditions as may be laid down in this behalf. Generally they should be self-supporting and a set of simple accounts will be prescribed for their use.

The effect of these proposals will be to co-ordinate and systematise all the varions orders issued by Government for the improvement of rural areas and bring those areas under the Local Self-Government scheme.

The necessary provisions giving effect to these changes will be incorporated in the amended Local Boards Regulation.

18. Enlargement of the Functions of District and Taluk Boards.—The Local Self-Government Committee recommend that, besides the functions assigned at present to the rural boards, the control of primary education, medical relief, veterinary dispensaries and muzrai institutions may be handed over to them. As already decided with regard to Municipal Councils, there is no objection to hand over the control of primary

education, medical relief and the care of veterinary dispensaries to the District and Taluk Boards. As in the case of Municipal Councils, some minor muzrai institutions may also be placed under the control of the Local Boards.

Under clause J. of Section 7 of the Local Boards Regulation, the District Board may take up any other local works or measures likely to promote the health, comfort, convenience and welfare of the public. Owing to paucity of funds, very little work outside the usual functions assigned to them appears to have been taken up! by the District Boards so far. In England and other countries, the tendency is to develop the District Councils so that their activities may range over all matters calculated to promote the welfare of the public. The ideal that Government desire to keep in view is to develop the District Councils so that their activities may range over all matters calculated to promote the welfare of the public. The ideal that Government desire to keep in view is to develop the District Boards gradually into real District Councils. But, for the present, Government consider that in matters which do not ordinarily come within their functions, such as local questions connected with the general administration of the district, the District and the Taluk Boards may be authorised to pass and submit resolutions for the consideration of Government, under rules to be framed in this behalf.

19. Finances of the District and Taluk Boards.—The Local Finance Committee have dealt exhaustively with the question of the finances of the rural boards. The outstanding feature of their financial situation is the want of elasticity of revenue and the consequent difficulty to meet the growing demand for increased expenditure on the services already undertaken or to undertake fresh services. It is stated by the Committee that fresh sources of income cannot be easily devised and that grants-in-aid from Government are necessary to enable the Boards to discharge their allotted functions satisfactorily. Their recommendations may be thus summarised :—

(i) (a) The Local Fund General may be abolished, the services now maintained by it being distributed between District Funds and Government according to their character.

(b) The Village School Fund may be similarly abolished and primary and vernacular education in rural areas transferred to District Boards.

(c) The District Board in each district may take up all the functions that are suitable for local bodies, including primary education, the entire cess and other receipts of the Local Fund General and Village School Fund being transferred to that body.

(ii) To enable Districts Boards to discharge all their functions, a sum of Rs. 23 lakhs is estimated to be necessary. Towards this, a Government grand-in-aid of Rs. 7 lakhs is suggested in addition to the transfer of the whole of the "mohatarfa" now credited to general revenues amounting to about Rs. 3 lakhs.

The net result of their proposals for the reorganization of the existing funds will be as shown below :—

RECEIPTS.

		Rs.
Average receipts under District Funds for three years ending 1914-15	...	8,95,122
Average receipts under Local Fund General for the same period	...	2,13,447
Average receipts under "mohatarfa" for the same period	...	2,63,486
		13,72,055
Add Village School Fund—average for the same period	...	2,38,519
		16,10,574

Exclusive of the Village School Fund, the receipts for the District Fund will thus be increased by over 50 per cent if the Committee's proposals are sanctioned.

20. Government approve of the recommendations of the Committee as regards the abolition of the Local Fund General and the transfer of the charges now debited to that Fund to Government. Whatever may have been the reasons for constituting it originally as a distinct fund, the paucity of funds in the hands local bodies leaves little justification for appropriating a part of the local cess for meeting the cost of services which are provincial in character.

21. The assignment of the mohatarfa to local bodies which is recommended by the Committee involves a sacrifice of general revenues to the extent of Rs. 2,63,000. In view, however, of the great need for increased funds for the District Boards and for stimulating their activities, Government accept this recommendation.

22. The question of the Village School Fund stands on a different footing. It does not appear desirable to merge this fund which is devoted to the promotion of primary education in rural areas into the general balances of the District Boards Government have accepted the recommendation of the Local Self-Government Committee that the control of primary education should be gradually transferred to Local Boards. When this recommendation is fully given effect to, the Village School Fund will be practically transferred to the local bodies. Till then, separate accounts will continue to be maintained for the fund.

23. In addition to the assignment of the Local Fund General and the mohatarfa, the Local Finance Committee have recommended that a lump sum grant estimated at about Rs. 7 lakhs should be given by Government to the Local Boards. It is understood that the Committee intended that this grant-in-aid should be given gradually. Government, however, are of opinion that the consideration of this question may be postponed till the Boards show some capacity for self-help and make serious efforts to increase their revenues. By the assignment of the Local Fund General and mohatarfa, an addition of over 50 per cent, as already stated, has been made to their income and no further financial help can be given by Government at this stage. It is, however, open to any District Board to approach Government for grants-in-aid equal to any additional revenue they are able to raise.

24. Provision for Local Improvements and other Development Schemes.—In addition to these measures, Government consider it desirable that District and Taluk Boards should have power to raise loans for the purpose of undertaking or financing important improvement and development projects in the areas concerned. District Boards can now borrow under the Regulation subject to the sanction of Government.

Taluk Boards which will be incorporated bodies under the proposed scheme may also be expressly empowered by legislation to borrow, subject to the sanction of Government.

In order to guarantee re-payment of such loans or to accumulate funds for specific useful purposes, the District and Taluk Boards may be empowered to levy a special cess within their respective jurisdictions. The levy of such a special cess should be agreed to by a three fourths majority of all the non-official members of the Taluk Board or District Board, as the case may be, present at a special meeting to be held for the purpose, and should be approved by Government.

25. The loans so raised will be utilised for the objects referred to in Section 7 of the Local Boards Regulation as well as for the agricultural and economic improvement of the areas concerned including construction of irrigation works and water supply tanks and canals, special repairs to the same, water supply and drainage works in rural areas, roads and tram ways, village extensions, demonstration farms, encouragement of rural industries, etc.

26. It will be observed that a considerable increase of powers and functions of the local bodies has been sanctioned and it rests with the local authorities to exercise these powers with due caution and in the best interests of the areas under their control. Government desire to state that, with a view to safeguard the efficiency of local administration, they will not hesitate in cases of proved incompetence or default by local bodies to withdraw any of the powers granted and to ensure efficient performance of their duties by the exercise of the authority vested in them by law. For some time to come, Government will endeavour, as far as possible, to render assistance to any Municipality or local body by lending them trained executive or engineer officers to work under them. Government, however, hope that under the operation of these orders, a spirit of self-help and initiative will grow up which would enable local bodies to train their own staff and provide for all their wants by developing local energy and resources.

JOBAT.

The 'Bengalee' has received the following letter from an esteemed correspondent at Indore regarding the case of the Rani of Jobat :—

" I have read with great interest your comments and those of the " Amrita Bazar Patrika " regarding the case of the ex Rani of Jobat. You might have noticed that the case has excited wide-spread interest. The " Leader " of Allahabad, the " Indian Patriot " of Madras, " Young India " published in Bombay, have all appealed to His Excellency the Viceroy, urging an open enquiry in the presence of the Rani by a tribunal of Indian Princes. I am sure His Excellency the Viceroy cannot disregard an appeal for justice so reasonable as this. Rani or no Rani, Prem Kumari Bai is entitled to a hearing and to be confronted with the witnesses hostile to her whom she ought to have the opportunity of cross-examination. This has been denied to her according to her allegation. It is an elementary right of justice which should be denied to none. You are not perhaps aware of an important fact in this connection and it is this, viz, that the Rana of Jobat, her husband, who abdicted had nearly two years before his abdication been deprived by the Government of all his powers, and yet upon the testimony of such a man, the son said to be born of the Rani and claimed by her as such was declared spurious. The whole case deserves the most thorough investigation. "

KAPURTHALA.

Civil and Military Gazette.

His Highness the Maharaja of Kapurthala, who takes such a keen interest in tennis, and is himself a good tennis player, is holding an open All India Tennis Tournament on the occasion of his birthday, which takes place on the 25th of November. The tournament will be held in the Palace grounds on four red rubble courts which are well consolidated and specially prepared for the occasion. Many of the most famous players of India have been invited. Mr. McLoughin from the United States of America was also invited, but he has not been able to accept the invitation.

The following is the list of the competitors who are taking part in the tournament:—Mr. Jacob, Mr. Deane, Mr. Mohammed Saleem, Mr. Ranga Rao, Mr Atkinson, Mr. England, Captain Ritchie, Captain Hallows, Mr. Fyzee, Lala Jagat Mohan Lall, Mr. Crawford, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Chinmulgund and some players from Kapurthala. Ladies.—Mrs. Gracey, Miss Perfect, Mrs, England, Miss Donald, Mrs. Hutcheson, and Mrs. Saunders.

The programme consists of Ladies' and Men's Singles, and Mixed and Men's Doubles. All the players will be His Highness' guests during their stay in Kapurthala.

The tournament will commence on the 25th and the finals will be played on the 30th November, when the cups will be presented to the winners.

Tribune.

The noble example of His Highness the Maharajah Sahib of Kapurthala in imparting high education to the Princes is one that deserves more largely to be followed. The care and assiduity of His Highness are now bearing fruit in the administration of the State in the shape of the intelligent and far-reaching interest being taken by the young princes. The Tikka Sahib carried on the administration of the State during His Highness's stay abroad, and fully justified His Highness's confidence in the success and popularity which attended his labours for the good of the people It is no less interesting to learn that His Highness's wise and far-reaching desire of associating the princes more and more with his administration has found expression in another son, Captain Amarjit Singh, B.A., (Oxon) having for some time been placed at the head of the departments of Education and Police. The young prince is reported on all hands to have justified the trust reposed in him by throwing himself heart and soul in his work. He has already raised one institution in the status of a High School and is stated to be contemplating the raising of another to the same standard, and is believed to have been giving away a sum of Rs. 200 per mensem from his private purse in scholarships. On the outbreak of war the prince offered himself for active service in France and had the privilege of fighting for His Majesty the King-Emperor, as Lieutenant in an English Regiment. All this augurs well, and there is an evident desire on the part of the subjects of the State to see the princes more and more closely associated with the administration to enable them to receive further training in the work of the various departments under the guidance of His Highness.

Maharaj Kumar Amarjit Singh, third son of H. H. the Maharaja Sahib, was born in 1894, and at a very early age imbibed a traditional fondness for military sports. At the age of ten, he went to England with his brothers, and joined Oxford where he remained till 1914,—the year of the attainment of his B.A., degree. This fondness for

military sports he matured in England, a 6 miles run being his morning exercise.

At the outbreak of war his martial spirit did not allow him rest, and he was the first among the Indians to offer his services, and was at once enlisted as a Lieutenant in an English Regiment which he well served for about a year when he had to return to India on account of ill-health.

At Kapurthala he was given a cordial and fitting reception by the people, and immediately on His Highness the Maharaja's arrival in Kapurthala he was given charge of two departments as Director of Police and Education. Partly owing to his English training and in part owing to his hereditary martial spirit "Thorough" has always been his guiding principle; he has himself been going round the city during nights, lately raided single-handed a gambling den, and has thus become the pride and stay of the whole town.

With a versatile genius which he has inherited from his worthy father, His Highness the Maharaja Sahib, he has accomplished in a very short time what was far beyond the scope of others, and in the province of education, his personal endowment of Rs. 200 worth of monthly scholarships will ever remain memorable in the history of the State. The extension of the Phagwara Middle School to the High Department was one of the immediate acts of his tenure of office, and it is believed that he contemplates the raising of the Sultanpur School also to the high standard.

His Highness the Maharaja Sahib has bestowed on him the rank of an Honorary Captain in his troops, and he would be doing a popular act of statesmanship if the Maharaj Kumar is placed in entire charge of the military and various other departments of the State to enable these to receive a fair share of his attention and energy to the benefit both of the State and of the people.

KANKER.

Pioneer.

An unfortunate accident has occurred at Raipur (Central Provinces) to the pedestal of the statue of the King-Emperor, which is in course of erection. This marble statue is the gift of the Raipur town of the Maharajadhiraj of Kamal Singh Deo, Feudatory Chief of Kanker, and it was arranged that Sir Benjamin Robertson, the Chief Commissioner, should unveil it early in December next. While the workmen were engaged in replacing the big heavy stone basement in the right position, it came down violently and cracked. The unveiling ceremony has had to be indefinitely postponed. The statue itself had not been placed on the pedestal.

COOCH BEHAR.

Pioneer.

An interesting event took place at Delhi during the recent conference of the Ruling Princes, when Rani Nirupama Devi, who had accompanied her husband, Prince Victor Narain of Cooch Behar to Delhi, read an essay on "Æsthetics" and a poem in Bengali written by her, to a meeting of the Bangiya Sahita Parishat. The Rani, who is a talented young lady, has a bright literary future before her. Her address although it was her maiden speech, charmed the audience and was very greatly appreciated.

FARIDKOT.

Pioneer.

The formal investiture of His Highness the Raja of Faridkot took place in public durbar at the Palace, Faridkot, this afternoon. His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab performed the ceremony. The city was profusely decorated and large crowds thronged the roads.

A message of congratulation and good wishes from the Viceroy was conveyed to His Highness.

On the arrival of His Honour at the Durbar Hall the troops presented arms and a salute was fired. His Highness conducted the Lieutenant-Governor to his seat. Two seats were placed below the dais on which were two golden chairs of State.

His Honour and His Highness first occupied the lower seats and when the durbar was declared open His Honour addressed Raja Brij Indra Singh. He dwelt upon the past services of the State to the British Raj and especially referred to the liberal contribution in men and money during the present war. He mentioned the growing revenues and prosperous condition of the State. His Honour trusted that His Highness, would succeed in still further improving and developing his goodly heritage. He would do well to work as far as possible through his own people and in the Political Agent would find a trusted adviser in any matters of difficulty. Sir Michael O'Dwyer reminded His Highness of the greatness of his responsibility and trusted that the career on which he was embarking would be long and honourable and that he would neither stumble nor lose heart. He could count upon the constant friendship and support of the British Government.

His Honour conducted His Highness to the dais and installed him on the masnad.

The Chief Secretary to the Punjab Government recited His Highness' full titles and His Honour declared him invested with full powers of administration. A salute of 11 guns was fired and the khilat of the Punjab Government was brought in and conferred upon His Highness who was invested with the sword of State by the Lieutenant-Governor.

His Highness briefly replied to His Honour's speech. After the leading officials has been presented to His Honour and khillats given to certain officials, attar and pan were offered and the Durbar was closed. In the evening His Highness entertained the Lieutenant-Governor and the guests at a State banquet at the Palace. His Highness proposed the health of Sir Michael O'Dwyer, who in turn proposed the long life and prosperity of His Highness.

The city was illuminated and there was a display of fireworks.

Pioneer.

The festivities connected with the investiture of His Highness the Raja of Faridkot with ruling powers began to-day. About sixty guests are being entertained in extensive camps laid out in the grounds of Darbarganj. H. H. the Maharaja of Bharatpur with the Maharani and the Majasahib arrived early on Thursday and other guests continued to arrive throughout the day. A special train from Lahore brought a large number, including H. H. the Nawab of Bahawalpur.

The Lieutenant-Governor with Lady and Miss O'Dwyer and staff, arrived by special train. They were met at the station by the Raja of Faridkot, Colonel Elliott, Political Agent, the Superintendent of the State, the heads of departments, Mr. Hallifax, the Commissioner of Jullundur, Brigadier-General Rose and Colonel Dennys, Inspector General of Police.

There followed the formal State visits, His Highness

first visiting the Lieutenant-Governor and then receiving His Honour at the Palace. Full mounted escorts preceded the State carriages at both visits. Guards of honour were mounted at Darbarganj and the Fort and there was a constant booming of guns.

After the formal ceremonies the guests were entertained in the grounds of Darbarganj. In the evening there was a banquet.

Faridkot city was decorated and very large crowds watched to-day's processions with the keenest interest. The investiture will take place to-morrow and in the evening there will be a State Banquet.

GONDAL.

Patrika.

"It is claimed that good administration costs much; and so it does. But this is not always the case. Here is an exceptian. The Administration Report for 1915 16 of that well-known Kathiawar State, Gondal, shows how popularity and efficiency in administration can be carried on with a small income, entirely with an indigenous agency of Gondal, with an area of 1024 square miles and a population of 1,61,916 has an average income of about 15 lakhs out of which goes a tribute of 1,10,721. That is the income of the Maharaja of Burdwan and considerably less than half the income of the Maharaja of Durbhanga. And just see what grand things the ruler of the State, Maharaja Bhagvat Singhjee, has achieved with this small sum for the benefit of his subjects. The subjects, in appreciation of his just and beneficent rule, voted him a colossal bronze statue in 1891, an honour without a parallel in the history of Kathiawar, The secret of the Maharaja's success as a ruler lies not only in his taking a personal interest in and paying undivided attention to the administration but in his simple living and high thinking and in the selection of capable Indian officers.

Educated first at the Raj Kumar College and then at the Edinburgh University, His Highness claims the length of outlook that is born of sound education and wide experience. Quite naturally he has adopted in his administration all the approved western systems, taking care, however, to adapt them to the conditions prevailing in this country, specially to Kathiawar.

We congratulate the ruler and his officers as also his subjects on the success and efficiency of the administration of Gondal which has long been recognised as an advanced State. Its status has been raised from second to first class. The most notable feature of His Highness's administration is that he has made the State practically free from taxation, customs and octroi duties, some 40 taxes having been abolished during this regime.

BHOPAL.

Bengalee.

We have been favoured by Her Highness Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum Sahiba of Bhopal with a book written by her and bearing the above name. The book will appear in parts and this is the first part. It is named "Muslim Home" and deals with the married couple. Her Highness is one of the most enlightened rulers among the Indian Princes. She has travelled widely and has practically discarded the purdah, for although HerHighness wears the burka she moves about freely in public and converses with the Political Agent and the Viceroy with perfect freedom. She is cultured and wise and has many of the qualifications of the famous Moghul Princesses. In the book before us Her Highness has shown that the status of woman in the Islamic world is high, higher in fact, than it was in the days of Solomon, or in such eastern countries as China and Japan in the past. Her Highness quotes freely from Al Quran and Surah to prove that Islam insists on due respect being shown to women and, according to the teaching of these holy books, their rights are nearly equal to those of men. In all Islamic teaching there 'is a clear tendency to establish equality between woman and man. Polygamy is sanctioned 'under restrictions and stringent limits,' and all wives are to be treated with 'strict equity and justice.' The dowry is the property of the wife Husband and wife have equal right of divorce. There are several forms of divorce, but recourse to this extreme step, unless absolutely necessary, is deprecated. The law of inheritance provides that, after the death of the husband, the wife is entitled to a share of the property, the proportion varying as there may be either issue or no issue of the marriage. We have found the little book very interesting reading. Her Highness has dedicated it "to my Muslim sisters in the West," who should profit by its perusal. We hope the other parts of the book will follow at short intervals.

REWA.

Leader.

His Highness the Maharaja of Rewa arrived at Rajapur, the birth place of Tulsi Das, in the Banda district at 3 30 p. m. on Nov. 16. A good meeting organized by the Tulsi Smarak of which Thakur Jaswant Singh, Honory, Magistrate, is a prominent member, was presided over by His Highness in a tastefully decorated shamiana when beautiful artificial gates, flags and buntings presented a festive appearance. Excellent arrangements were made for the distinguished visitor by M. Abdul Aziz, B. A., Deputy Magistrate, Kurwi, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Panna Lal, I. C. S. There was a large number of eager persons visible all round. A rough estimate puts the number of persons present at three thousand. There were lectures by learned Pandits and distinguished lecturers who had come all the way from distant places like Benares and Allahabad. His Highness speaking at some length approved of the principle underlying the movement and offered useful suggestions for perpetuating the memory ofTulasi Das, the Hindi poet of world-wide reputation, at his birth place. The first item of to morrow's programme is His Highness's visit to Tulsi Das temple on the bank of the Jumna where a pucca ghat is said to be a great desideratum.

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THE COCHIN TOUR.

Indian Patriot.

On the 21st at 4 P. M. His Highness and party visited the famous museum at Calcutta where different varities of animals, birds etc. were collected and preserved. His Highness particularly examined the arrangement of the Museum. After this His Highness and party visited the Pottery works.' The different processes for making procelain dishes, vessels, dolls etc., were explained and shown to His Highness. The economical condition of this industry was also inquired into and noted. His Highness's curiosity to know the manifest detail of this industry was highly admired by the factory expert. His Highness and party returned home at 8 P. M.

On the 22nd His Highness took rest in the morning. Several visitors including respectable Bengali gentleman of the place paid their respects to His Highness in the afternoon. His Highness the Raja of Kossimbazar was one of the visitors.

At 8-45 His Highness and party motored to the Howrah Railway Station where the whole platform No. 7 was thickly crowded with spectators. The Military Secretary to His Excellency Lord Carmachael was also present to give His Highness a grand send off. The importance of such a grand visit of a Maharaja to the old Capital of India was very well marked by the crowd. After exchanging words to all present at the platform which was neatly decorated His Highness took leave of them and the special steamed off at 9-16 P. M., to Rambha.

At Rambha on the 23rd His Highness's special whistled at 8-5 A.M. The platform was nicely decorated with festoons and ever greens. The European Manager of the Kalikot Raj, the Deputy Collector of Ganjam, the Tahsildar of the place and several respectable leading gentlemen of the place were all present to receive His Highness and party. His Highness and party motored to the palace of His Highness the Raja of Kalikot on the banks of the Chilka lake. The fine scenery of the place, and the excellent lake view from the palace with ever green shrub and trees on its banks, was well appreciated.

At 4-30 P. M., His Highness and party accompanied by the Deputy Collector motored to the Government Salt Factory about 6 miles from the palace. The European Salt Inspector explained to His Highness how the salt is obtained from the water and the different salt beds were also shown. After inspecting these and noting the different stages of these process, His Highness and party were conducted to the storing place when salt is finally heaped. The economical aspect of their industry was also inquired into and noted. His Highness and party returned home at 8 P. M.

At 9-45 His Highness and party motored to the Railway Station where His Highness special was steamed ready for starting. After taking leave of all present, His Highness and party left Rambha for Waltair at 10 P.M.

On the 24th H.H's special reached the Waltair station precisely at 7 A. M. The Deputy Collector, the Tahsildar, and several respectable wealthy gentlemen of the district welcomed His Highness and party at the station which was nicely decorated and the platform covered with red baize. After being garlanded, His Highness and party motored to the palace of the Maharaja of Bobbili at the sea shore, about a mile off the station. The bungalow presents a splendid view of the Bay of Bengal with the little harbour of Vizagapatam.

At 3 P. M. The Maharaja of Bobbili came to welcome His Highness and after a private intermind His Highness view motored through the important places, such as the public buildings, the harbour, Post Office etc., and returned to the palace along the beach road at 6 P.M.

His Highness and party left Waltair for Bezwada.

The visit to this small station, which was on the 25th was unusually interesting and His Highness very well appreciated the importance of this small station with regard to the agriculture of the district. His Highness's special steamed of at 7 A. M., and the several respectable British officials such as the Collector, the Tahsildar, the Municipal Chairman, the rich Zemindar and Mittadars and practically the whole town of Bezwada were present at the platform to give an apt welcome to the reigning Raja of Cochin of whose ability, talents and unassuming manners they have so much heard. The impression created by His Highness on them was also none the less. The Municipal Chairman garlanded His Highness and party and they were conducted to the beautifully decorated nice little bungalow about a mile away from the station. The whole station wa snicely decorated with festoons and ever greens and the road from the station to the bungalow was also decorated with thoranams and arches welcoming His Highness the Raja of Cochin.

After conversing with some of the respectable gentlemen at the bungalow His Highness retired for breakfast.

At 3 P.M. His Highness and party motored to inspect the grand railway bridge and the anicut works accompanied by the Municipal Chairman. At the bridge the Railway Engineer was ready waiting to receive His Highness. Alighting there, His Highness and party trollied over the whole bridge inspectings here and there the peculiarity of the construction

Such as the expansion, joints, roller bearings etc. His Highness had a fine view of the aniout also in front of the bridge.

After this, His Highness thanked the Railway Engineer for the trouble and took leave of him and started to the aniout works.

The Executive Engineer Mr. R. Narasimha Iyer and the Assistant Engineer received His Highness and party and followed His Highness explaining in every detail the different parts of the system. Such as the aniout, the scoring or the undersluice, the headsluice lock etc. His Highness compared this aniout with that at Cauvery river and the difference between the 2 was well explained by the Executive Engineer. The working of the shutters of the head sluice was also shown when His Highness noted the difference between this sort of shutters and Stoney's patent-shutters. The Executive Engineer was even surprised to know the technical knowledge of His Highness and by His Highness's intelligent questions at every place to understand the details and which he had to answer. After carefully noting the importance of such a structure to the agriculturists of the district and enquiring about the economical aspect of the project. His Highness took leave of him and motored to the muslim buildings where an entertainment was arranged by the public of Bezwada headed by the British officials. A select programme was set up and gone through in every detail including music, aerobratic feats, a garden party and a welcome address. His Highness conversed with the select few very freely and thanked them for the kind hospitality and for the trouble taken by them in their buzy hours to welcome His Highness on such a grand scale. This museum hall in which this was arranged was nicely decorated with flags, evergreen festoons etc., and at the centre a nicely arranged platform covered with red baize. His Highness moved with them very freely and created a high impression in the minds of the Bezwada public. His Highness and party motored to the bungalow at 7 P. M.

His Highness and party reached the platform at 8-55 P. M. The whole platform was necely illuminated and decorated newly and the evening decoration very well displayed their heart's content at seeing the Ruling Raj. His Highness and party took leave of the important person gathered there and His Highness's usual smiling face satisfied the rest of the crowd with whom His Highness had no time to converse. His Highness's special left at 9-15 P. M. On 26th at the Central Station Madras there was an unusual crowd of the Malayalee gentlemen of the city to give His Highness a grand reception after such a successful tour to the most important function concerning the Native States and the British Government at a distant place at Delhi, the Princes' Conference. His Highness was very

much pleased to see His subjects at Madras who were waiting anxiously to see him. His Highness and party motored to the Tullocks Garden at Nungambakam.

The whole day His Highness was very busy with visits from the leading gentlemen of the place such as Hon. Messrs. P. Rajagopalachari P. S. Sivasami Iyer, T. R. Ramachadra Iyer. The representatives of the Malayalee Club, Mr. Young, the Collector of Madras and several other respectable leading Malayalee and Madras genlemen.

Indian Patriot.

It was a happy idea of the Consort, who is personally so very popular, and whose simple ways, and graceful courtesy have endeared her to her sex, to give an "At Home" at the Cochin House. A number of ladies on answered the invitati. The Consort, assisted by Mrs.Bhore received the guests and conducted them to the well laid out gardens. Refreshments were served on a lavish scale, and the beautiful garden, spread over by women in dress of variegated colours,the Consort and Mrs. Bhore moving freely, presented a picturesque appearance. A group photo was taken,and a very successful function terminated at six o'clock.

The Malayalee Club gave an entertainment at the Victoria Public Hall yesterday, where all Malayalees assembled, including Dewan Bahadur C. Karunakara Menon, Dewan Bahadur C. Krishnan, V. Sekhara Menon, K. Govinda Marar, A. Sundaram and others too many to mention.

An address in verse was presented to His Highness the Rajah and the Consort, after which a screaming farce was gone through.

Indian Patriot.

His Highness the Raja of Cochin and the Consort, while in Madras, attracted the Malayalee section of the population; the Malayalee looks to Travancore and Cochin as their natural leaders, and the present Ruler of Cochin has, by his extreme affability and good nature, a personal popularity which is rapidly increasing. In the social sphere of this responsibility, His Highness is ably assisted by the Consort.

Indian Patriot.

Ernakulam, Nov. 30.—His Highness the Rajah of Cochin and party arrived here by special at quarter past. three in the evening, when the local officials and members of the Mahajana Sabha welcomed His Highness. A grand procession, with band and music, headed by the people reached the Durbar hall through decorated roads, where Brahmins with Poornakumbbam welcomed His Highness.

The Mahajana Sabha's address, printed on silk and enclosed in a beautiful sandalwood casket, was read and presented by Mr. T. R. Ramachendriar of the Madras Bar, to which His Highness gave the following reply.

"I thank you sincerely for the kind words in which you have accorded me, a welcome on this occasion of my return from my tour in North India. This tour has provided an opportunity for acquiring fresh information and a new outlook in regard to many matters of administration and industrial concern, which, I trust, will not be entirely without fruits.

It is my earnest desire to associate my people in an increasing measure with the Government of the state, but such measures, as are adopted to secure this end must be conceived in the best and truest interests of the people. They must be truly educative in intention and effect. I need only say that this subject is engaging the earnest attention of the Durbar.

The object which your Sabha has before it is a very laudable one, and I trust you will be able to do something practical in giving effect to it. It is too often forgotten that the interest of people and that of Government are not opposed, and my Durbar will always welcome any representation which will bring to their notice the real wants and needs of the people. I thank you heartily for the expression of loyalty and good wishes contained in your address and wish the Sabha along life of practical utility.

The Valans and Ezhuvas also presented two addresses His Highness was garlanded again before taking leave of the people. Motoring to Tripunitura His Highness the Raja received the Nambudiri Yogakshema Sabha's address. Limes and bouquets were distributed to all. The function was a grand success.

Indian Patriot.

In his reply to the address of the Cochin Mahajana Sabha yesterday, His Highness the Rajah made a very sympathetic reply which, we have no doubt, will be read with deep gratification by the people of the State. His Highness is not a man of many words, but the few that he gave expression to will long be remembered in the State. The reference to industry and the advice to the Mahajana Sabha to do something practical must fill the people with hope.

SAMBALPUR.

Bengalee.

Sambalpur, Nov. 27.—His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor accompanied by his personal staff and Mr. H. Coupland, Chief Secretary,

arrived here yesterday by special train and alighted at the level crossing. He was received by Mr. Cobden-Ramsay, C.I.E., Political Agent in the Orissa Feudatory States; and Rai Bahadur Mano Mohan Ray, Deputy Commissioner, and was then introduced to various chiefs and officials of the district. His Honour motored to Circuit House where he and his party were staying and accorded interviews to the Feudatory Chiefs. He had a Durbar in the Victoria District Hall for the purpose of the formal installation of Raja Sdhdhal Deo, Feudatory Chief of Bamra State, and the investiture of Raja Sir Chandra Jadumani Deo, Feudatory Chief of Rairakhol State, and of delivering to the latter the re-used sanad granted him by His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor-General. The Lieutenant-Governor, accompanied by the Chief Secretary and his personal staff, motored to the hall escorted by his mounted escort, and was received by the Commissioner of the Orissa Division, the Political Agent and the Deputy Commissioner of Sambalpur. After the guard-of-honour had been inspected, His Honour took his seat on the dais. In installing Raja Sudhal Deo, Feudatory Chief of Bamra, he said: "The recognition by the Government of your succession to the 'gadi' of your ancestors was communicated to you shortly after the demise of your lamented father, Raja Tribhuban Deo. It now affords me great pleasure to meet you at this durbar, which I have convened for the purpose of installing you formally as Raja and Chief of the Bamra Feudatory State. Your father took a great interest in your education and training and for sometime before he died you had already, under his supervision, taken part in the actual work of administration. You have now succeeded to the responsible and onerous duties of a ruling chief and I trust you have before you a long career of usefulness and that you will devote yourself to the improvement and development of your State. You have in this respect a notable example in the person of your grandfather. Raja Sir Sudhal Deo, who received the high distinction of a Knight Commander of the most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire a recognition of his enlightened administration and his unremitting efforts to advance the welfare of the people of his State. Your father helped to carry on the same good work. He established spinning looms, a sugar refinery and a motor lorry service, and he constructed an important canal for irrigation purposes. I am confident you will do your best to carry on the good work done by your two immediate ancestors, and show yourself in every way worthy of them and that you will endeavour to maintain the traditions of your house. I should like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the generous subscriptions, aggregating to nearly half a lakh, which have been given from your State towards Imperial Indian Relief and other war funds. It gives me the greatest pleasure to present you with this sword as a "khillat" and to announce publicly the approval and confirmation by

Government of your succession as the Raja and Feudatory Chief of the Rairakhol State.

Raja Bir Chandra Jadhumani Deo of Rairakhol was then formally invested. Rai Sahib Jogendra Nath Sen was then presented with the sanad conferring on him the title of Rai Saheb. With distribution of 'atar' and 'pan' the proceedings terminated at 4.30 this afternoon. His Honour later opened the Khalkhalla bridge in the Rairakol State.

In investing Raja Bir Chandra Jadumani Deo of Rairakhol, the Lieutenant-Governor addressed him as follows :—

Raja Bir Chandra Jadumani Deo Jena moni, I have invited you to attend this Durbar in order that I may invest you as the Rulling Chief of Rairakhol. The late Chief Raja Gour Chandra Deo adopted you from the family of Bonai Raja and you are a half-brother of the present Chief of Bonai whose State adjoins your own. Your adoption was duly recognised by the Government and you succeeded to the gadi in 1916. From 1907 to 1912 you studied at the Raja Kumar College in Raipur and since then you have been residing in your State acquiring a knowledge of the duties of a Chief under the able guidance of my friend Mr. Cobden-Ramsay, the Political Agent. When the late Chief died the treasury was entirely depleted but during the period of administration by the Political Agent the finance have been carefuly fostered and considerable improvements have been effected in the buildings and communications. The financial position is now sound, but the revenues of your State are slender and it will be necessary for you to exercise great care in order to keep your expenditure within necessary limits. I am confident you will do this and that you will devote yourself to administration of your State with the same correctness which you have shown during your period of instruction. I now present you this gold mounted sword as a 'khilat' and have great pleasure in announcing the approval and confirmation by Government of your succession and investing you as the Raja and Feudatory Chief of the Rairakhol State. I wish you a long and successful career.

INDORE.

Pioneer.

It has afforded us very great pleasure to read an announcement that His Highness the Maharaja Holkar proposes to make a princely gift of rupees two lakhs out of his privy purse to be utilised in a way which his subjects consider will prove most beneficial to themselves. His Highness has already given many proofs of his rare generosity and sympathy towards

his subjects by numerous benevolent acts which he has been pleased to sanction during the last five years of his reign. Last year he ordered the introduction of a scheme of compulsory and free primary vernacular education into the whole State and, in this year's Budget, large sums of money have been allotted for the purpose and the services of an eminent and experienced educationist have been engaged. The old Veda Shala has been reorganised into a Sanskrit College to give impetus to the revival of the study of ancient Sanskrit literature. In almost all important towns Municipal Government has been introduced. Improvement of the City water-supply has been effected at a huge cost. Legislation for amelioration of the social conditions of his subjects has been passed and restriction on intoxication by higher taxation of excisable commodities has also been recently resorted to to add to the material and moral progress of the people. The present munificent gift crowns these all. Our pleasure is all the greater that His Highness has been pleased to invite suggestions from his subjects how to best use the gift. We dare say that they who are so fortunate to live under the rule of such a generous sovereign will be able to suggest to His Highness the means by which the benefits of his gracious gift will be extended to the furthest corner of his State. This should be a matter of great satisfaction throughout India as few Rulers of Native States are found to devote their privy purse in public interest.

BARODA.

Bombay Chronicle.

His Highness the Maharajah Gaekwar has, says the given a fresh proof of his progressive tendency as a ruler. His Highness has directed that a representative assembly of the people should be formed to receive suggestions on and discuss questions affecting the public welfare. The idea, of course, is not new. For the Mysore State has already anticipated Baroda in this respect The Dewan will preside and the heads of all departments will be present to give information and help in the discussion, each district and divisional local board will send one representative. It was not very long ago that a beginning was made by the introduction of local self-Government in Baroda and, as we have shown on previous occasions, village Government in the State has made far greater progress than in any part of British India. The Legislative Council of Baroda has not made similar progress but with the inauguration of the representative assembly, representative government will have taken a great step in advan And this, we have no doubt, will only be an earnest of greater things to come.

GWALIOR.

Jayaji Pratab.

The week that has just passed will remain a historic week in the annals of Gwalior, as it has witnessed three important events all connected with the ruling house of this State.

During the last week, we had three Birthday celebrations. First came the Bara Barsa of His Highness the Yuvraj. Gwalior has seen many great events that will always be written large on the pages of history, but never probably one to which it has looked forward with such eagerness as that of the 14th of November.

To join the Bara Barsa celebration people gathered from all parts of the State, the Saradars, Jagirdars Thikanedars, Zamindars, Officials and gentry all came to pay their homage to the new prince.

In a grand Darbar held at the Jailvilas Palace in the afternoon, the Darbaris had been promised a view of the Prince, and every one eagerly looked forward to the moment when one could in the words of our great law-giver Manu "gladden one eyes and hearts like the sun." When that moment arrived, and HisHighness the Maharaja Scindia preceded by his staff, accompanied by the Princess Mary Kamla Raja, and folowed by the baby Prince George Jivaji Rao carried in the arms of his "Phupha" Sardar Appa Sahib Shitcley entered the Darbar, all expectant eyes were turned on them, the hearts of the Darbaris beat loudly with emotions of love indescribable, and sent a thrill through the whole of the Darbar Hall.

As His Highness took his seat, with the Prince in his lap, and the Princess by his side, the customary permission of His Highness to open the Durbar was obtained. Nazars were presented and Neochhawar offered. The ceremony was short, but so long as it lasted, the interest of the whole audience was entered in the baby prince. A few minutes, and the Prince was again seen being carried in arms in a procession and the rows of the Darbaris on the right and left bowing in reverence.

This was followed by presentation of *Ahers* to His Highness the Maharaja Scindia by the Sardars, Officers, Jagirdars and others present. The Darbar was a grand pageant that had brought all people together and this spontaneous act of loyalty and homage was certainly the crowning feature of the day. After the presentation of *Ahers*, Poshaks were given on behalf of the Durbar to all the Darbaris present. With the usual formalities which were solemnly impressive this historic Darbar came to a close. In the evening there was a grand State dinner at the palace to which an unprecedently large number of people were invited. The extraordinary importance o

this day will remain deeply rooted in the memory of those who witnessed the celebrations. It gave a striking manifestation of the great spiritual idea underlying the respect and affection of our people for our beloved and benign Maharaja. On the 16th November, Gwalior celebrated the Birthday of its ruler to whose unceasing and devoted labours it owes all that it is to-day. On this day, we presented to our readers as usual, a special number of the *Jayaji Pratab*.

In the morning, there was the usual review of troops at the Thatipure parade ground. The proceedings war of the usual nature but on the present occasion, the gathering of spectators, was exceptionally large. From the central pavillion Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Bikaner, Datia and the Maharaja Kumar of Bikaner Mr. W. E. Jardine our popular Resident other Sardars and European officers witnessed the review. The extraordinary Gazette of the Gwalior Government announcing Birthday Honours was the one topic of conversation in the different pavillions.

In the afternoon there was usual Darbar of Nazar and Neochhavar, at the Palace which was followed in the evening by a grand State dinner.

To day on the 22nd November we are celebrating the birthday of our Maharaja Kumari Mary Kamla Raja, and it is but a happy coincidence that the various public bodies, communities, and religions and other interested are to present their addresses of congratulation to His Highness the Maharaja Scindia on the birth of Yuvaraj—May he live long.

BANGANAPALLE

New India.

Letters of sympathy from both the European and Indian gentlemen are being received by the Nawab and his Dewan.

The town is being surveyed for the formation of a new town. It is divided into 3 sections.

1. Area affected by floods.
2. Area unaffected by floods.
3. and the area which has to be inhabited.

A strip of land running along the bank of the river will form the area where building of houses will be prohibited. This particular portion of the old town being indirect danger of inundation whenever the river is in high floods.

This prohibited piece of land will be resorted by the people as a place recreation.

Hitherto easy access to the river was scarcely possible, the only means being by the main road.

Whereas the new arrangement of the town will give easy access to both the people and cattle at several points.

There were accidental deaths during the week one being an adult labourer who met his death while dismantling a building damaged by floods.

The other was an infant child of one of the flood distressed persons which met its death by a loose piece of timber from the fixture of the building.

The losses sustained by the various departments of the state are as follows :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Medical	...	9,100	0	0
Jail	...	200	0	0
Education	...	665	0	0
Police	...	88	8	9
Weaving Factory	...	1,545	0	0
Silk Farm	...	5,350	0	0
Guest House	...	1200	0	0
Municipality	...	10,000	0	0
Stationary room	...	250	0	0
Public Works Department	...	63,000	0	0
H. H. The Nawab Saheb Bahadur	...	60,000	0	0
Total.	...	1,41,674	12	3

These are the approximate estimates and according to the information to hand to time. The losses are considered to be even greater and figures are still awaited.

"RULING PRINCE" NOT 'CHIEF.'

'A Prince' writes to the *Englishman.*—

Sir,—I should like to draw our attention to the fact that the designation 'Chief' as commonly applied to the Ruling Princes of India is incorrect and inappropriate. The word 'Chief' should be only applicable in such cases as occur on the North-Western borders of India (as the chief of a tribe or community), or big landholders and Zemindars in British India,

and Jagirdars and Thakurs in Indian States. It should on no account be used when referring to Ruling Princes, who exercise sovereign powers in their States and who have entered into treaties of alliance and agreements with the British Government. The British Goveaments often use the title of 'Chief.' Most of the Princes of India are nowadays advanced and well educated enough in the English language to resent this designation. In Her Majesty Queen Victoria's proclamation as well as His Majesty the King-Emperor's speeches and messages the expression 'Princes of India' has always been used.

At the Conference recently held at Delhi both his Excellency, the Viceroy in his opening speech and His Highness the Maharaja of Baroda in his reply spoke of the 'Ruling Princes' I am sure I am voicing the opinions of all Princes who have considered the matter when I say that the designation of 'Chiefs' in the case of Ruling Princes who enjoy the hereditary title of 'His Highness' and are entitled to dynastic salutes should be discontinued.

The *Englishman* writes as follows on the above :—

We fear we have all erred unconsciously in speaking sometimes ofthe Ruling Princes of India as Ruling Chiefs. There is however, a difference between a Prince and a Chief which the dignitaries thus spoken of naturally desire to be remembered. The title of Chief is applicable to the chieftain of a tribe or a community—though not to a Zemindar—but it is not applicable and ought not to be applied to Ruling Princes who exercise sovereign power in their States and who have treaty relations with the British Government. As a Prince whose letter appears in another column, reminds us, most of the Princes of India are nowadays advanced and well educated enough in the English language to resent being called Chiefs. A certain amount of looseness of language is inevitable especially in newspaper writing and these nice distinctions are forgotten certrainly not through intention, nor always through ignorance but mostly through carelessness or the desire to avoid repetition. It is characteristic of the care and the punctilious regard for courtesy of the Royal Family that in all the proclamations of the late Queen Victoria and in the speeches and messages of the present King-Emperor the expression Princes of India is used. Apparently the Government of India is not always so careful, and perhaps the Princes themselves have occasionally used the wrong term. For instance, we have the Higher Chiefs' College.

FARIDKOT.

Tribune.

On Friday afternoon, His Honour Lieutenent-Governor formally invested His Highness Raja Brij Indra Singh of Faridkot with full powers. His Henour installed His Highness on the *musnid* and invested him with the sword of State, a salute of 71 guns be'ng fired as the R ja Sahib was duly installed. His Honour in a felicitous speech dwelt upon the past service of the State to the British Raj and especially referred to its liberal contribution in men and money during the present war. Referring the growing revenues and prosperous condition of the State, His Honour trusted His Higness would succeed in still further improving and developing his goodly heritage. H's Honour concluded with reminding His Highness of the greatness of his responsibilities and trusting that be career on which he was embarking would be long and honourable- and that the would neither stumble nor lose heart. The day of investiture of His Highness must be a red letter day to the State. His Highness is an educated and enlightened Prince, on whose upbringing and training no pains have been sparedeither by Government or by the State administration, and his subjects have naturally the highest hopes of him and his administration of theState, and they hope in the words of the gracious message of good wishes from His Excellency theViceroy, that "his rule will be an epoch of progress and development for theState." Indeed the young and promising Raja Sahib enters upon his great task under the happiest auspices, and the State will be truly blessed if in carrying out his administration he bears out the high hopes entertained of him by H's Excellency the Viceroy and His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, and the people of his State.

During the investiture ceremony of the Raja of Faridkot, in his speech at the State Banquet, HisHighness expressed a desire to present two motor ambulance cars for the use of the wounded soldiers, to place Rs. 10,000 at the disposal of the Lieuten- ant-Governor for the purposes of the war and to present Rs. 5,000 to Lady O'Dwer's comforts for Troops Fund

BHAVNAGAR.

Advocate of India,

His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavnagar arrived in Nandod by special train. His Highness was met at the station by H. H. the Maharaja of Rajpipla and the leading Sirdars and officers of the State. His Highness

visited places of public interest on Friday morning. A garden party was given in the evening in honour of His Highness who leaves on Saturday afternoon for Bombay.

Times of India.

Her Highness Nandkunverba, C.I., Maharani of Bhavnagar, who has invented many practical ways of spreading correct information about the war and of encouraging people to support its prosecution and contribute to the war funds, has just sent us several packets of illustrated postcards which she has just issued for the same purpose. The postcards in four of these packets bear photographs of four Indian soldiers, who have been awarded, in three cases, the Victoria Cross and, in the fourth case, the Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry in face of the enemy. The fifth packet contains cards bearing illustrations of the State seals of various rulers of Bhavnagar since 1703. Each postcard bears the inscription showing that it is issued and sold "for the benefit of the War Fund" and 25 cards are sold for Rs. 1. Her Highness' chief aim is to bring before the public the heroic bravery and the great self-sacrifices "of these loyal Indian heroes," and "to inspire the public, specially the warrior races of India, with the sentiments and aspirations of such deeds of loyal and sacrificing services to the British Crown."

MYSORE.

Gazette.

The Mysore Government have issued the following order:—"Instances having come to the notice of Government, of letters from private persons to officers of Government remaining unackowledged, Government direct that all letters addressed to Secretaries to Government, Heads of Departments and Offices, and Deputy Commissioners of Districts by private persons and firms and Societies, not under the control of Government, should be replied to promptly unless they are in reply to communications from the Departments and call for no further action. If there is likely to be any delay in the disposal of such letters "ad interim" replies should invariably be sent within a week of the receipt of such letter to the effect that the questions are receiving attention. Attention is also drawn to an order which lays down that applicants appearing in person should at once be informed of the probable time within which orders will be passed and that petitions otherwise received should be acknowledged unless they can be disposed of within a week."

SUKET.

Tribune.

One of the important items of the tour programme of His Honour the Lieutenant-Govenor of the Punjab was his visit to Suket, for which Sir Michael O'Dwyer and the party consisting of Lady O'Dwyer, Miss O'Dwyer, Mr. C. J. Hallifax, Commissioner, Jullundur Division. The Hon'ble Mr. J. P. Thomson, Chief Secretary, Lieutenant Colonel E. C. Bayley, Private Secretary, and Mr. R. H. Crump, C. S., A. D. C., left Mandi early in the morning of the 19th October. On arrival at the State boundary His Honour was received by two principal officials of the State. Motoring through the plateau of Bulh for more than 3 miles, His Honour was met at a distance of 3 miles of the State capital by His Highness the Raja accompanied by Kunwar Lachman Singh, brother to His Highness, Main Pratap Singh, Chief Secretary, Mian Pratap Singh, Chief Secretary, Mian Purduman Singh, A. D. C., and other high officials of the State. After presenting the customary tribute of a bow and musk pod, usual greetings and introductions took place. The assemblage then proceeded towards the capital. Passsing through the Bhojpur Bazar and further on the Mall, His Honour reached the State Guest House where on Lieutenant Governors' alight a salute of 15 Guns was fired and the Guard of Honour presented Arms, while the band played the usual air. At 3 P.M. His Highness paid a formal visit to His Honour which His Honour returned the same evening at about 4.

On the following day at 8-15 His Honour accompanied by His Highness motored to see the new cart road in progress and on returning visited the King Edward Memorial Hospital. A Photograph was taken in the evening in the grounds of the Guest House. There was a dinner at night in a big and well decorated tent erected for the purpose in the maidan, where His Highness received His Honour and party at 8. His Highness the Raja with his brother and some of

his officials joined his guests at the table as much as his custom would allow with fruits for him and his party. After drinking the health of the King Emperor, His Highness proposed the toast of the evening and said as follows:

Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—I have, during Your Honour's term of office, had the honour and pleasure of meeting you on several occasions and, on the occasion of my stay at Lahore in 1914-1915, enjoyed the privilege of meeting Lady O'Dwyer at a Garden Party held in the Government House, I have thus formed a personal acquaintance and friendship with Your Honour and it is with feelings real joy and sincere gratification that I now welcome Your Honour, Lady and Miss O'Dwyer to my State.

It will not, I think, be inappropriate if, by way of an introduction to my State, on Your Honour's first visit to it, I say a few words on this occasion regarding it and the house which I represent. The hill State of Suket, though not one of the largest in the Province, is undoubtedly one of the oldest of the Punjab States. The State is so ancient that its origin is lost in antiquity. The ruling family of the State is descended from one of the most celebrated of the Rajput clans, namely from the historical 'Sen' dynasty of Bengal. What made the rulers of this and other hill States to migrate from different parts of India to these Sub-Himaliyan regions, is not very clear; but it is likely that visits to places of sanctity in this part of the country introduced these picturesque highlands to 'Rajput' pilgrims from the tropical regions of India and, by the exercise of the influence of their pasts as Rajputs, or natural rulers, they were able readily to establish themselves and to control the fighting and restless 'Shudra' aborgines of the bills. Subsequently history must have overflowed with stirring events connected with the subjugation of the aborigines or the conquest of hostile Rajput rulers, and, in this way, some States grew very powerful while others were

reduced to mere vassalage to a stronger neighbour. Tradition gives Suket a very prominent position in these mountainous regions and, at one time, the Ruler of Suket held the position of Lord Paramount over no less than twenty-two States north of the Sutlej. Kulu was a fief of Suket, the Mandi State itself, I am proud to say, is a daughter or off-shoot of this my State. In it early history the State of Suket was subordinate to none but to the Emperors of India; but in later times, it fell under the Sikh domination, which, as we all know, was supreme for some years during the last century, over the whole of the trans-Sutlej area. When the Sikh power was broken, the State came in 1846 under the blessings of British Protection. My great grand-father, Raja Ugar Sen, was then the Chief of the State. It is unfortunate that the State does not furnish a very happy record during the two reigns preceding my own and suffered from disputes which arose amongst the members of the ruling family and from such internal disorders arising out of these disputes. Nevertheless it is a source of not only consolation, but of great pride to me, that my ancestors have fully maintained their loyalty and their deep attachment to the British Throne.

Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen,—After this brief reference to the past history of the State, I hope you will allow me to allude in a few words, to the history of my own times. I was educated at the Aitchison Chiefs' College, Lahore, of the Council of which important institution I now have the honour to be a member. After obtaining the Diploma representing the final examination of the College, I prosecuted my studies at the Government College, Lahore, and had almost reached the standard of the First Arts, when I was called upon, by my father's decease, to assume the responsible duties at the Government of my State. I was formally installed by Your Honour's predecessor Sir Louis Dane in 1908 at about the same time of the year at which I have now the honour of receiving your present auspicious and

happy visit. I commenced my rule in somewhat gloomy circumstances. On the one hand, the finances of the State were inadequate to even meet the immediate demands of the religious and other important ceremonies involved in the demise of my father, and subsequently, in my own marriage and succession to the 'Gadhi.' On the other hand, I found the State unsettled by family troubles and lacking a sound public administration, in addition to the financial anxiety, caused by such immediate calls in my attentions, my thoughts were overwhelmed by the very perplexing task I had before me of restoring a permanent peace in the State, which had been disturbed by influential local men in the past by fomenting ill-will towards the methods of the Government of State. I was threatened, in my turn with the probable recurrence of the troubles which overtook my predecessors and I embarked on my rule in a difficult situation.

Your Honour, it is with much pleasure that I am able to tell you that perfect tranquility now reigns in my State, and that I can count upon the goodwill and loyalty of my subjects with full confidence. The former troubles have now ceased to hamper the ruler of the State and the Officers of Government with whom the administration is practically connected. I do not claim that I have during the past short period of my rule, done all that is necessary, nor do I deny, as nobody will, that I could do what little I have done without straining my finance. To convert a village seat, which has been long neglected, into the sembulance of a suitable capital and business centre of the State means the expense of both time and money; but that my labours have been well repaid, is manifest from the present public institutions, buildings and roads of which the State can now boast. Though I have a good deal of hesitation in organising the administration on lines too advanced to suit the conditions of a conservative population, like that of Suket, I am not content with what little improvement has been made in every branch of

the administration and my endeavours are directed to advance it slowly and steadily.

I owe to the parental support of the Government during my Chiefship a deep debt of gratitude. The sympathetic attitude maintained towards me by my respected friends who have been in charge of the Political Agency of the State, I shall never forget. I feel very fortunate in having Mr. Hallifax, in immediate political relationship to me, and I look forward to the benefits of his valuable advise and experience, gained by his having been closely associated with the affairs of my State during my father's rule.

Your Honour, Ladies and Gentlemen, though it is not befitting me to enumerate what poor services my State has been able to render to the Imperial Government in the crisis in which we are at present involved. I think it will not be too much to say that my State has evinced its profound loyalty and deep attachment to the British Throne. My State and myself have deeply felt the troubles and anxieties caused by the lamentable war which is still raging, and it has been the desire of myself and my people and to help to bear our share of those troubles and anxieties not only by expressions of sympathy but by practical material support. My earnest prayer is that the success of our arms may be speedy, and that our foes may be brought to realise the error of their ways and to surrender themselves suing for peace and forgiveness.

Gentlemen, I now cordially invite you to join me in drinking to the health of Sir Michael and Lady O'Dwyer who have taken so much trouble to favour us with their gracious visit to this far-off State.

I trust our guests will carry away kindly impressions of this honoured visit to our State.

The Lieutenant-Governors replied:—

Your Highness,—I must appreciate the hearty wel-

come which you have attended to my wife and myself on our visit to your State. Suket as Your Highness has told us, is one of the oldest Rajput States in the Punjab; in the past it has played a leading part in the stormy politics of these hills, and in the struggles for wider domination that only ceased when the advent of British supremacy 70 years ago brought with it external peace and order.

But even under British protection the State, though free from external aggression and though it never faltered in its loyalty to the Paramount Power, was constantly troubled by factions and internal disorder up to the beginning of Your Highness's rule.

In investing Your Highness with Ruling Powers 8 years ago, my distinguished predecessor, Sir Louis Dane, referred to the many difficulties with which you were confronted and gave you valuable advice as to how they might be surmounted. I am happy to find that you have followed that advice, have settled the dispute with the relations of the Chief which in the past have brought such evil upon Suket, and are now utilizing the services of some of them in the administration of the State, while the Miyans on their part will, I am sure, appreciate Your Highness' action and prove themselves a source of strength and not of weakness to the State and its ruler. Your Highness has referred to what has been effected in other directions to equip the State with adequate institutions, and having seen something of them within the last two days, I am glad to be able to congratulate you on the many improvements you have already effected (in spite of financial difficulties).

The King Edward Memorial Hospital is a model institution of its kind, the gardens and guest houses are admirably designed and equipped, and I understand you are contemplating an addition to the schools which are still few in number.

The maintenanee of good roads is of supreme impor-

tance, in the hills, and as Sir Louis Dane reminded Your Highness is one of the conditions of your sanad. In this respect Your Highness has already done much for your own people; and by the energy with which you have pushed on the section in your State of the important cart road that will connect Kulu, Mandi, Suket, Bilaspur and Nalagarh with Rupar, you have set an admirable example to the other States concerned.

Your Highness has spoken to me of other important schemes which you have under consideration for the improvement of the land revenue, forest and excise administration.

The preservation and development of the Forests were specially commended to you by my predecessor and I am glad to learn that Forest Regulations have now been framed and that you intend to apply to Government for expert advice on the technical aspects of the question.

The reform of the Excise system here and in Mandi where the population in the Bahl tracts is being demoralised by cheap liquor is a matter of great urgency which will, I hope, be soon settled by the friendly co-operation of the two States.

In these and all other matters connected with the welfare of the State. Your Highness may rely on the valuable advice of the Political Agent who, as you remark, has special knowledge of the State, and on the support and help of Government. Your Highness has frankly stated that the improvements already effected have imposed some strain on the State finances and it is hardly necessary for me to suggest that the best way to put your finances on a sound basis is to curtail future expenditure on objects which, though desirable in themselves, are not essential or remunerative, and to devote those savings to objects which will directly benefit the State and people. The reform of the Forest and Excise systems, and the settlement of the land revenue on regular

lines, when Your Highness is in a position to undertake such a measure will, I am sure, do much to ensure the stability of your finances and the well-being of your people.

And now, Your Highness, to turn to external matters. It is a great pleasure to me to have this opportunity of publicly acknowledging the splendid loyalty with which at the beginning of the War you offered your personal service and all the resources of Your State to the Government. That this was no empty offer is proved by the generous support you have given to every movement for the successful prosecution of the War, or for the relief of suffering and distress caused by the War. Considering the resources of Suket I think your contributions would compare favourably with those of any State in the Province and the question is not whether you could have done more but whether your loyalty and generosity have not prompted you to do too much. Your help has not been restricted to gifts in money, though these exceed ¾ths of a lakh—it has also taken the practical form of a valuable gift of transport mules and of active assistance in raising recruits within the State.

These gifts are valuable in themselves, but they are doubly valuable as proofs of your attachment to the King-Emperor and his Government and of your readiness to make personal sacrifices in the righteous cause for which we have drawn the sword.

Ladies and Gentlemen, before I sit down I must acknowledge on your behalf as well as my own the lavish and thoughtful hospitality which His Highness has shown us during our stay and the trouble and consideration he and his officials have taken for our comfort. We shall carry away pleasant reminiscences of our visit and I would now ask you to join with me in drinking the health of our host and in wishing him and his State happiness and prosperity.

All then proceeded to a Shamiana to enjoy the Fire

works and Nati (a form of hill dance performed by a band of Hill men and women in their peculiar style) which lasted for about an hour or so. The State palaces, roads, other, buildings and the private houses were all illuminated in honour of His Honour's visit to Suket.

On the morning of the 21st October Sir Michael O'Dwyer and party left for Mandi under salutes, being accompanied by His Highness as far as three miles from the Capital.

DEWAS SENIOR

Dewas, Nov. 25.—20th of November was a red-letter day in the annals of the State of Dewas Senior. For, on this day, in compliance with the earnest desire of His Highness the Maharajah Saheb Bahadur Sir Tukoji Rao Puar, K. C. S. I., Major C. K. Luard, M.A, I.A., Political Agent in Malwa laid the Foundation Stone of the Municipal Hall and Public Library An open space to the East of the Town was the site selected for the purpose; and the State Shamiyana erected for the occasion was over full with the Darbarees and the general public with their Municipal representatives, invited to the special Darbar, convened to signalise in a befitting manner the dawn of the new Era of Municipal and Public life. Great enthusiasm prevailed when the popular and scholarly Political Agent declared the foundation, well and truly laid.

The proceedings began with the impressive and weighty speech o His Highness which was followed by the most felicitious and instructive speech of the Political Agent. After the ceremony of laying the Foundation Stone leading Members of the Municipality offered their grateful thanks on behalf of the public of the State for the boon thus conferred on them on that day and concluded with a touching prayer for parental guidance and advice in exercise of their responsible Municipal administrative duties.

The speeches were translated into the vernacular with the distribution of Atar Pan, the never-to-be forgotton function the came to a close

His Highness spoke as follows :—Major Luard, Shrimant Bhau Sahib Maharaj, Sardar Diwan Sahib, Nobles, Members of the Municipality and gentlemen,—

We have gathered here to-day to join in performing a function which not only touches very closely the interest and life of the citizens of this town but is in my opi-nion far reaching in its consequences. One naturally hesitates before introducing a radical change, more particularly so in the East because of its well known conservatism. I mean the East is not very ready to at once embark on any propaganda however appealing and beautiful it may present itself at the first sight. Whether this characteristic is for its good or otherwise I for one feel very diffident to pass a sweeping remark on, although I personally think it to be better to await one's time than to rush on. But there are things, which have to be done and no one can set the hands of the clock back. And after all, I do not see why one should attempt it in vain. We rejoice in the glory and large heartedness of our ancestors, we also have the advantage of that methodical and advanced civilization of the West and well may we engage ourselves in activities which will, if not to say more, at least awake us to our fullest sense of duty and responsibility as citizens belonging to that great and Ancient India and of the biggest and most civilized Empire in the World.

India has already in more than one way contributed in her own humble ways to the Empire. No better example of this can be had than her—though perhaps small but loyal—share in the great War raging in Europe. Naturally we all Princes and peoples are proud of it and I know we are always ready to serve the cause of the Empire to the best of our power and resources. By now we may safely say the issue is certain and the success is on our side. Let us all pray for the speedy termination of the War with all victory and glory to the brave and chivalrous British Arms and the gallant Allies.

I now turn to the actual work of the moment. Since sometime, myself and my Durbar have been considering the establishment of a Municipality in this town, the Capital of my small State. I do not mean that there was no Municipality until now; as a matter of fact a Municipal Department has been in existence in and worked solely by the State since about 1887. And all that is now proposed to be done is to organise the institution in such a way as to give the citizens themselves as much voice and control in its management as is possible and consistent with the most modern notions and local circumstances. To effect this fully an independent Municipal Building is necessary. The spirit of Municipality implies that it should be ultimately a completely self-supporting institution. How this should be brought about and what should be the scope and sphere of Municipal activities are matters of detail. One thing however I can declare to-day before you the citizens of my Capital Town that we have decided not only to grant you a Municipality based on Modern standard—of course due

regard being paid to the local circumstances—but I herewith present you and that too with the fullest concurrence of our most trusted colleagues and Councillors, Shrimant Bhau Sahib Maharaj Vishwasrao Bahadur and Sardar Pandit Narayan Prasad Morchaldar Barkhawas with a Municipal Hall and a Library. We may well then in fairness say that the Darbar has played its part and it now remains for you citizens to justify not only this action but to act in such a way as to completely fulfil all that is hoped and expected of you. Let me give you one word of warning. Do not try to cross the bounds of your legitimate sphere and do not think that you are a body meant in any way to oppose your Government. But your function is obviously to facilitate its work and policy as it suits most your interest and welfare. Be careful not to let any unwholesome literature enter your library; you may go in for all kinds of books and literature excepting of course such as are expressly of the seditious or disloyal kind, and above all let Loyalty be your watchword. With those principles ever before your minds I may safely say I do not hesitate about your future growth, which then entirely lies in your own hands.

4. Gentlemen you must indeed congratulate yourself on one more auspicious feature of the day. At my earnest request my great friend and well-wisher has taken the trouble to be present in our midst to-day to lay the foundation stone of the Municipal edifice. Major Luard's name is very closely and since long associated with Central India and his literary attainments and vast knowledge are well known facts. I have had the great pleasure of knowing him for nearly the last about eighteen years and one way or other on many occasions I have had opportunity to know and see of him very closely. Naturally then when I learnt his being appointed as the Political Agent in Malwa I knew I would have a true and noble friend by my side. And how this has amply proved in various ways in the short space of time I need not detail here. Suffice it to say that Major Luard has both to me personally and to the State generally acted in a manner which none but a true friend and a well-wisher could only have done and as thus earned my ever-lasting gratitude and satisfaction. Now that Major Luard is practically leaving his official connection with my State, I have taken this opportunity to give a public expression to my genuine regard and feelings towards him. I must thank Mrs. Luard also for all the kindness and hospitality that I have received from her and her kindly taking all other troubles for me. We all very much miss her presence here to-day with the dear children. Though shortly to be separated in our official relationship I know, Major Luard, you will always give me the privilege and pleasure of your true and personal friendship. I will always look upon you as one of my sincere well wishers.

It only remains for me now to request you to kindly lay the foundation stone of the Municipal edifice and the Library.

Major C. E. Luard, M. A., I. A., Political Agent in Malwa spoke as follows :—

Your Highness, Councillors of the State, members of the municipality and gentlemen,—

I must first thank Your Highness for so kindly inviting me here to-day to lay the foundation stone of your new Municipal Hall and Public Library. It is one more step on the road of progress which you are following with the able support of your brother Shriment Bhau Sahib Maharaj and my old friend Sardar Pandit Narayan Prasad.

You have uttered a word of caution regarding the introduction of reforms with which I fully agree. Too eager an advance may mean a set back and that is always serious in the conservative atmosphere of a Native State. Still it has been my good for tune to see many reforms instituted even in the short time I have been here, among which I may mention , the new rules governing Inams under a Committee presided over by the Bhau Sahib Maharaj the utilisation of Mr. Coventry's expert advice on Agriculture and the new system of Abkari control, while all the assistance within Your Highness' powers has been rendered in connection with the War. There is a Maratha saying "Gadi Kam Shikite" the truth of this proverb is very soon apparent to Rulers and their officials, but less so to their people.

Now you, gentlemen, as members of the municipality will learn what this means, and appreciate those difficulties of practical administration which you had previously underrated and unappreciated, especially that most troublesome gentleman, "Want of Funds"—and such knowledge will increase your sympathy for those who have so long been directing your affairs.

As one to whom a library means a great deal, may I give a word of advice to the new librarian, whoever he is, and that is to think out very carefully what objects his library is to serve primarily, and stock it with this end in view, then he can add from time to time books it is desirable to have but which are only read occasionally. A good library is a useful and most delightful possession but it requires great care in its formation and greater care for its growth and preservation.

In conclusion, I have to thank Your Highness and the members of the municipality for the very kind expression you have read about Mrs. Luard and myself. Mrs. Luard, I can assure you, most sincerely regrets her inability to be here to-day. I am leaving Malwa but not Central India, indeed I shall actually be considerably nearer to Dewas when at Manpur, than I was at Nimuch. My official connection is temporarily severed but

this does not imply any break in the friendship between Your Highness and myself which began some 18 years ago on the tenn's courts of the old Daly College.

The following speech was delivered on behalf of the public:—

With Your Highness's gracious permission I rise to read a few words on behalf of Your Highness's loyal and dutiful subjects, as an humble token of our deepfelt sentiments of gratitude for the great boon that has been so generously just conferred upon us. The grant of a Municipal Hall and a Public Library does not only supply most cherished need of a citizen's life but in our caseit opens up altogether a new era in our civic life. We are indeed very diffident, considering our present circumstances as to whether we would be able to fully avail ourselves of the manifold benefits of such institutions and whether we can adequately discharge the duties and responsibilities thus thrown upon us. Of one thing, we can respectfulyl venture to assure Your Highness that in all we do our Motto and Ideal wil be staunch loyalty to the State and strict adherence to the proper and legitimate sphere of activities alloted to us. Mistakes we may commit but after all according to our most cherished and inherited sentiments we are the children of of the State and naturally therefore it follows, the Ruler and his Government being our parents we expect, nay, we claim it as a matter of right to be treated by them in that sacred relationship. Ours is to obey and faithfully serve; yours is to guide us to our realgood and welfare. We cannot help here expressing our deepfelt gratitude and sentiments to Your Highness and the Durbar for the fact that we have all along enjoyed the privilege and the benefits of such a relationship to the utmost possible extent. We know fully well how enthusiastically and to the best oftheir power have they laboured to make to-day's event an accomplished fact which is just like them and quite in keeping with their keen interest in all that concerns our welfare and progress of the State. We need hardly say that we are alluding to our respected heads of the administration Shrimant Bhau Sahib Maharaj Vishwasrao Bahadur and Sardar Pandit Narayan Prasad Morchaldar Sarkhawas, the most trusted advisers and Councillors of Your Highness,

To crown our joy and happiness, we are indeed gratified to find that the Foundation of this public institutions will ever be associated with the name of one, who is well-known as an eminent scholar and man of letters and who has been, one way or the other, closely associated since long with Your Highness and the State—we mean Your Highness' honoured guest and esteemed friend Major C. E. Luard, M.A., I.A, Political Agent in Malwa—we humbly beg to offer our warmest and respectful thanks to you Sir, for so kindly gracing the occasion. It will ever be remembered that

such a large-hearted and popular personage like your worthyself has laid the foundation stone of theMunicipal Hall and the Library at the earnest desire of our beloved master His Highness to whom in conclusion we, once more respectfully tender our loyal and grateful thanks.

Praying for the long life and increased peace and prosperity to Your Highness' and Your Highness' illustrious House and our State, I beg to take my seat.

FARIDKOT.

Civil and Military Gazette.

" After paying a visit to our good and hospitable friend, the Raja of Chamba the Lieutenant-Governor has taken up his residence in Lahore, but this week he has run down to Faridkot to perform the interesting ceremony of installing the Raja of that State on the "gadi of his ancestors. Faridkot is a young ruler of much promise, and it is said that, in grappling with the problems of Government, he derives great assistance from his charming and talented Rani who has won the hearts of his people by giving to Faridkot the first direct heir that the State has had for many years. A large number of his European friends have been invited to take part in the festivities attendant on the Raja's installation. Among them are Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Leslie Jons of the Aitchison College of which Faridkot is an enthusiastic old boy.

தமிழ்நாடு ஆவணக் காப்பக நூலகம்
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